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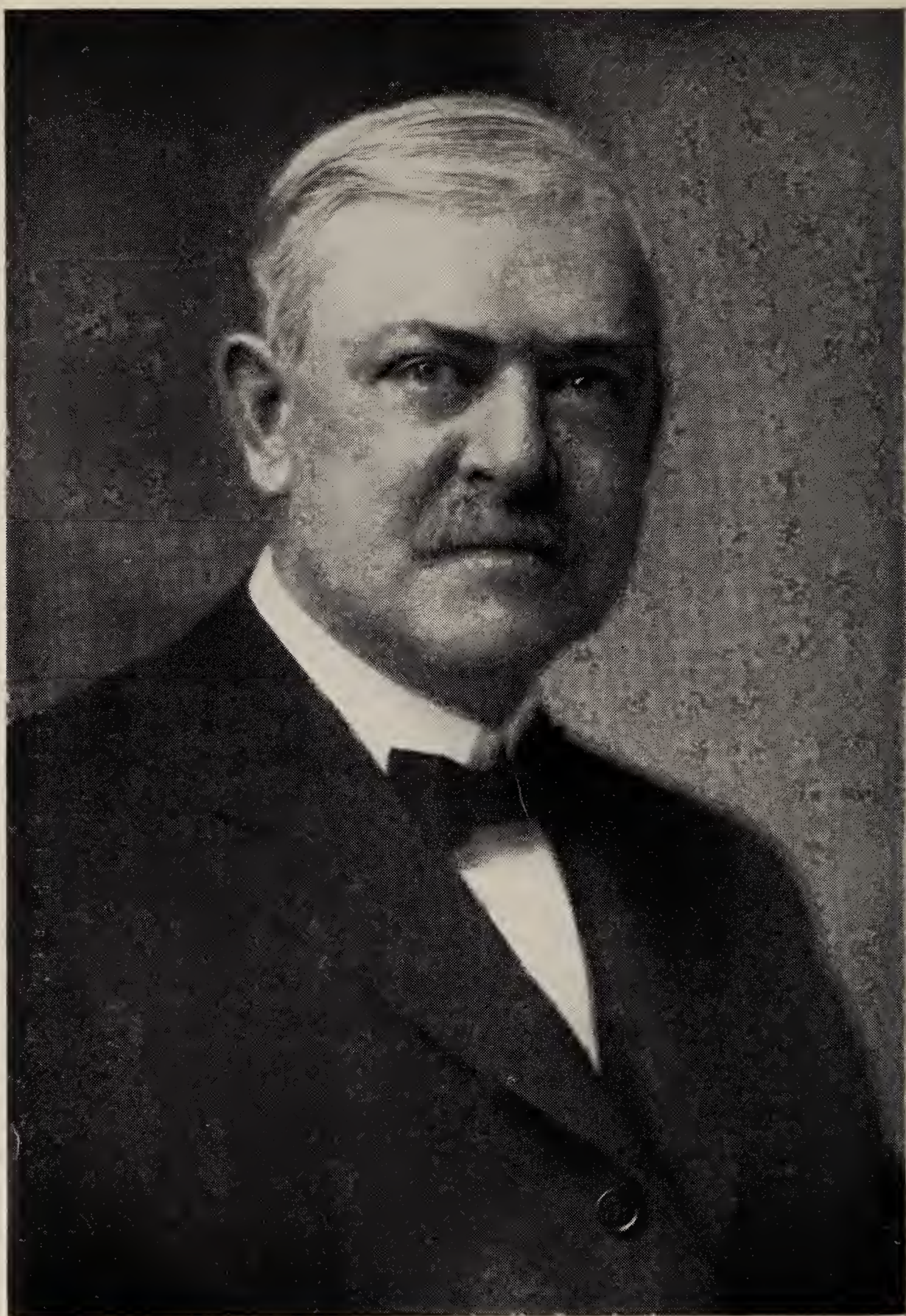
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History of
Granville



Albion B. Wilson

History of
Granville
MASSACHUSETTS

By
ALBION B. WILSON

January 25, 1954

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Preface

THIS book is the result primarily of curiosity. I had read of Toto and had heard much about what he received as the price of the Granville Hills. I became interested to know more, if possible, of the transaction which was the beginning of the recorded history of Granville. I read everything I could find bearing upon the subject. In examining the earliest land records I soon discovered that most of what had been written concerning the first twenty-five years of the town's history was very far from correct. This aroused my interest still further. One thing led to another and this book is the outcome.

None knows better than I the shortcomings of this history. It is at best far from being as complete as might be wished. It has, I believe, the merit of accuracy. The source of the information herein is original documents and records. What other historians have written has not been copied. Personal theories have been avoided, except where stated to be such.

I am under great obligations to many public officials for their unfailing courtesy and their readiness to grant permission to examine the records in their charge. Also I am deeply indebted to many friends for their interest and willingness to give me access to family papers and private records. I wish to express to each my sincere thanks and appreciation for their boundless courtesy. Particularly I wish to acknowledge my obligations to the *Springfield Republican* for permission to use its files and to the Town Clerk of Granville for the unlimited use of the Town records.

ALBION B. WILSON

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Foreword

IN 1954, Granville, Massachusetts, celebrates the 200th anniversary of its incorporation as a District and the 100th anniversary of the beginning of the Noble and Cooley Drum Factory.

How much my husband, Albion B. Wilson, would have enjoyed working for and taking part in this celebration, for he loved Granville and its people. In his memory, therefore, as a tribute to him and as his share in the celebration, this History of Granville which he wrote is now published. It is a matter of the greatest regret that he did not live to attend to the publication himself. No one else can do it as well.

He spent countless hours in research, examining official records not only in Granville but also in Hartford and Simsbury, Connecticut, Springfield, Northampton and Pittsfield, Massachusetts, at the State House in Boston and elsewhere. He read state records, town records, probate records, church records, school records, old deeds, wills, family Bibles, old diaries, letters, account books, newspapers of the period and other material. He visited numerous cemeteries including the Old Cemetery in Durham, Connecticut, the cemetery in Canandaigua, New York, where Oliver Phelps is buried, and the Colonial Cemetery in Granville, Ohio.

Except where so noted, all his statements are from records and not from hearsay, however interesting that may be. In general, he mentioned only briefly outstanding individuals and old families but put his emphasis upon the start of the town and those things which led up to and contributed to its development and to its place as an integral part of the Commonwealth.

My most sincere thanks are due to all those who have helped, not only by their actual work but by their encouragement. Especially my thanks are due to Mrs. Arthur L. Frellick of Granville for valuable assistance in proof-reading, to Miss Mildred Saunders of Honolulu who took over the exacting task of making the index, and

also especially to Miss Eleanor Gleason and to Col. Anson T. McCook, both of Hartford, without whose kind and efficient help this publication could not have been undertaken.

LAVINIA ROSE WILSON

Hartford, May 15, 1953.

Albion B. Wilson

ALBION BENJAMIN WILSON was born April 16, 1872 in Weathersfield, Vermont, the son and first child of George Grow and Susan (Morse) Wilson.

As a boy, he attended the country schools and in 1891 was graduated from the Windsor, Vermont, High School, Valedictorian of his class. That fall he entered Dartmouth College from which he was graduated in the class of 1895. At Dartmouth, he was a member of Theta Delta Chi, engaged in various college sports, played football, sang in the Episcopal Church choir and, in his senior year, was an editor of the college paper besides working his way almost completely and making an enviable record for scholarship.

After graduation from Dartmouth, in order to earn money for an education in law, he taught school for one year, then entered the Railway Mail Service where he remained until he entered Harvard Law School in the fall of 1899. Upon completion of that year, he wanted to get work in a law office both for practical training and to earn more money for his studies. On July 13, 1900, he came to Hartford, Connecticut, entirely unknown, and secured employment with Robinson and Robinson, a leading law firm. When it was time to return to the Law School, the Robinsons asked him to remain with them instead, which he did, and in 1902 was admitted to the Connecticut Bar and later joined the American Bar Association.

On January 30, 1903 he married Sarah Adeline Howe of North Tunbridge, Vermont, who died April 9, 1905. On October 14, 1909 he married Lavinia S. Rose of Granville, Massachusetts, who survives him.

In September 1911, he opened his own office at 50 State Street, Hartford, specializing in real estate and probate law, and here he remained until his retirement in January 1932. For two years during World War I, he was Prosecuting Attorney of the City of Hartford.

After his retirement, until the outbreak of World War II, he spent much time in travel, both on this continent and abroad. His summers were spent at the Granville home where he came to know and love the town.

He was interested in young people and especially the underprivileged. For forty-five years he was connected with the Good Will Club of Hartford, a club for boys, one of the earliest of such organizations, serving as teacher, trustee and president. For many years he taught a Sunday School class at the State Prison in Wethersfield, Connecticut, and helped more than a few to rehabilitate themselves. For almost fifty years he was a member of the South Congregational Church in Hartford and for many years taught a class of boys there who have become respected leaders in their various careers. In Granville, he was active in the formation of the Federated Church. He was always deeply interested in the affairs of Dartmouth College. For six years he was a member of the Alumni Council and for twenty-one years President of his class. He was a devoted member of the Connecticut Historical Society and served on many important committees, the last being the committee which planned the acquisition of the Society's new home at 1 Elizabeth Street, Hartford. Among his special interests were stamps, genealogy and Granville history.

His sudden and unexpected death, due to a heart attack, occurred in Granville on the afternoon of October 31, 1950. He is buried in the South East Cemetery there.

LAVINIA ROSE WILSON

Hartford, May 15, 1953.

History of
Granville

The Proprietors

THE town of Granville lies in the southwestern part of Hampden County in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. It is in the eastern edge of the Berkshire Hills, which means that it is one of the so-called "New England Hill Towns." It is naturally a country covered with timber. The pages of its history are inscribed with the events of more than two centuries and are worthy of more than a casual reading.

By the middle of the seventeenth century settlements began to appear along the Connecticut River, at that time a main artery of traffic; Saybrook, at the mouth of the river; Middletown, a few miles up the stream; the group of three, Wethersfield, Hartford and Windsor, farther on; and still farther, Springfield, with its Path through the wilderness to the Bay. In 1640 a group of Connecticut pioneers purchased land and made settlements at what is now Westfield, which then included the present town of Southwick. So the hill country on the western boundary of Westfield, or Woronoake, as it was then called, became the frontier. It still was, as it always had been, primeval wilderness, untrodden, save by wild animals and passing Indians.

In the spring of 1686 Sir Edmund Andross arrived in Boston as the personal representative of King James II, with instructions to call in and take up the charters already granted to the settlers of New England, and set up in their stead a government by the direct representative of the Crown. Among other things which this haughty Sir Edmund did, one was to appoint new judges and officers for the judicial courts of his Majesty, and so, in due time, he appointed one James Cornish, who was then living in Westfield, to be the Clerk of the then existing court in Hampshire County.

Just what kind of an individual this James Cornish was, it is now nearly impossible to tell, but the following is taken from Phelps' History of Simsbury, page 175: "James Cornish settled in Northampton and was the first schoolmaster in that town. He afterwards removed to Westfield and was appointed Clerk of the Courts in

Hampshire County by Sir Edmund Andross. Shortly afterwards, when the government of Massachusetts was resumed under the charter, he was left out of office, but the Court applauded his good services, and recommended him to public favor." In one regard, however, we can rest assured he was quite like many of our own time. He was alert to the opportunity to get something for nothing, or practically nothing.

That he was a man of enterprise and of more than average ability is clearly shown by the fact that at a meeting of the inhabitants of Woronoco on January 21, 1668, he was one of a Committee of four chosen to go to a town meeting to be held in Springfield the following month and there to present a petition "to allow us to be a township of ourselves." This Committee secured the granting of their petition. Furthermore, he was one of the grantees named in the deed of Alquat, the Indian Sachem, which conveyed the greater part of the present City of Westfield to the Inhabitants of Westfield, alias "Warranoke," dated June 30, 1669. Excellent training to prepare him for real estate business in the wilderness, whereby he became the first white man to have a claim to that portion of wilderness which was later to be the Town of Granville.

He knew of the so-called "mountains" lying on the western boundary of Westfield because they stood up against the southwestern sky and were in plain sight of the village where he lived, and he shrewdly could foresee that some day they would be valuable to whosoever might own them. There was nothing uncanny in all this. It was just plain common sense. So with this idea in his mind he set about getting hold of the title to that mountain territory on the western frontier. All this happened not later than 1686.

Of the two methods of acquiring title to wild land, he was not attracted to the arduous process of actual settlement, but much preferred the easier way of getting it by purchase. It was not difficult to find the Indian Sachem who claimed to own and possess it by virtue of being the son of his father, who had possessed it before him, as well as being the grandson of his grandfather who had possessed it before that. This Indian Sachem who claimed ownership and possession was none other than Toto.

Toto, or Totoe, as the name sometimes appears, deserves more

than a passing mention. He was a Poquonnoc Indian. The headquarters of Toto's tribe was on the Farmington River in the town of Windsor, in the Colony of Connecticut, at the place where the present village of Poquonock is situated. The Poquonnocs lived between the Tunxis Indians on the west and the Podunks on the east.

His grandfather had been Sachem of the tribe and his name appears in a variety of spellings, as is common with Indian names written two hundred or more years ago. It appears as: Nassaicowan, Nassacowan, Nassacowen, Nassahegan, Nassahegon, and otherwise. He was very friendly with the white people and sold some of his land to the English "for some small matter."

Apparently Toto followed in the steps of his grandfather and even went so much further that he is one of the few Indians in the class with Massasoit and Uncas, and he richly deserves the gratitude of the people of this section of the Connecticut valley. It seems that at the outbreak of King Philip's war the Poquonnocs refused to join the hostiles and remained loyal to the English. The particular exploit by which Toto jumped into fame was nothing less than saving the entire settlement at Springfield from massacre.

The Springfield Indians had a fort about a mile southerly from the settlement and, as they were considered friendly, no thought was given to the possibility of danger from that quarter. This tribe had, however, been "talked to" by Philip, or some emissary of his, and treacherously received about three hundred of Philip's warriors into their fort. It was planned to attack and burn the settlement at Springfield the next morning and overwhelm the unsuspecting whites.

In some way Toto, who was said to have been at Windsor, Connecticut, at the time, learned of this scheme and on the evening before the attack was to occur he made it known. A message was sent post haste to Major Treat at Westfield, who set off at once for Springfield with such forces as he had. It is tradition that Toto himself was despatched to Springfield with the alarm, and that he ran all the way to that town and got back to Windsor that same night. But whether that be fact or fiction, it is certain that a message was sent from Windsor to Springfield warning them of the threatening danger. The people there were incredulous and, in spite of the warning, suffered a surprise attack and were just saved from destruc-

tion by the timely arrival of Major Treat and his men from Westfield. Thirty-two of the forty-five houses then existing were burned by the hostile Indians. Toto's faithfulness had prevented a massacre. Either the Town of Windsor or the City of Springfield, or both, might do well to render a tardy recognition of gratitude for a friendly act.

So far as is known, neither Toto nor any of his tribe ever dwelt among the hills of Granville. In fact the Granville hills seem never to have been occupied as a dwelling place by any tribe of Indians. There are no Indian names connected with the soil of Granville, so to speak. Not a mountain or hill, not a stream, not a pond, not a meadow, not a camp site bears an Indian name. It is believed that not so much as an arrowhead has ever been found in the Granville hills, except one or two found by Raymond Noble along the banks of Seymour Brook where it flows through the wide meadow now owned by Ralph H. Hiers.

James Cornish in some way got in touch with Toto and, it is safe to say, they had negotiations between them relative to the purchase of the "mountains" by Cornish and their sale and transfer by Toto, because the outcome resulted in the sale by Toto of an area described as "six miles square" in June, 1686, to "James Cornish, Senior, of or belonging to Westfeild, in the County of Hampshire & in the Collony of the Massachusetts." Tradition has it that the price paid to Toto for his inherited hunting ground was "a gun and sixteen brass buttons" but the writer has been unable to substantiate the tradition by any kind of evidence. It may be true, but so far nothing has been discovered to prove it. The consideration for the sale of this thirty-six square miles of mountain wilderness as set forth in the deed of conveyance was "*good & loving considerations*" but just what these "considerations" actually were does not appear. They might have been the traditional gun and sixteen brass buttons, or they might have been anything else.

Cornish caused to be prepared, or more likely he himself prepared, a good and legally sufficient deed on June 10, 1686, for conveying the mountain wilderness to himself and with it in his pocket went to Hartford, Connecticut, which in those days was no mean journey, and picking up Toto on the way, appeared before

John Allyn, a magistrate. With all due formality Toto executed the deed, received his "good & and loving considerations," and both he and Cornish went home happy—Toto with, perhaps, his gun and buttons and Cornish with his deed, his something for nothing. The following is a copy of the record:

THIS present writing made the tenth day of June Anno Domini one thousand six hundred eighty six Between James Cornish Senior of or belonging to Westfeild in the County of Hampshire & in the Collony of the Massachusetts of the one party & Toto an Indian Captaine now living neare Hartford in the Collony of Connecticut, of the other party witnesseth that the said Toto Indian Captaine being the true and lawful heyre of certain tracts of land in severall parts of this countrey as being derived unto him from his Grandfather, Nassaicowan & Taguiamson & Unquiram his ffather, hath by these presents given, granted, aliened & confirmed, & doth by these presents give, grant, alien establish & confirm unto the above named James Cornish (for good & loving considerations him hereunto moving, a certayne Tract & parcell of land lying & being now in Massachusetts Collony) so supposed but never purchased from him or his p^rdesessors, contayning six myles square or the contents thereof, or thereabout, (bee it more or lesse) bounded by the land granted by the said Toto unto William Leet, Esq^r. Southerly, & by the land granted by him also unto John Williams of Windsor Northerly & runs Westerly toward housatunnik bounded by the Mountaines & Easterly by the land belonging to Westfeild or Springfield by the highway or Road running from the lower end of the Ponds unto two Myle Brooke near Westfeild on a straight lyne all which the p^rmisses with all appurtenances, previledges conveniencies & immunities whatsev^r thereunto appertayning & belonging as Ponds, Rivers, Brookes, Springs streames Marshes Swamps, Trees, Bushes, Stones, Rockes mynes Minerals & whatsoever shall any wayes appear to be thereunto belonging) I the said Toto doe give grant confirme establish & ratify unto the said James Cornish his heyres executors & assignes for ever to have hold possesse & injoy as his & their owne propp^r right title & interest lawfully quietly & peaceably without any lett hindrance disturbance or molestation & doe hereby declare (at the ensealing & delivery hereof) my just & true right & title thereunto & to every part & parcell thereof against all persons what soever for by or under mee or under any pretence whatsoever shall lay any clayme or challenge any right or title to the p^rmisses or any part thereof. And I doe hereby acquitt the said James Cornish his heyres & assignes & discharge, & otherwise well & truly

save harmlesse the said James Cornish his heyres & assignes of & from all & all manner of all former & other gifts grants bargaines sales leases, mortgages joyntures Dowryes, extent judgments executions forfeitures fynes or amercements & from all other titles troubles charges demands & incumbrances whatsoever had made committed suffered omitted or done by me the said Toto my heyres or assignes or by any person or persons whatsoever clayming right by from or under us or any of us or by any of our meanes act consent privity or procurem^t & Lastly I doe give unto the said James Cornish his heyres and assignes full right to enrowle & record the p^rmisses & every part & p^rcell thereof to himselfe & his heyres & assignes for ever.

In witness whereof I the said Toto have signed sealed & delivered this writing with my owne hand even the day & yeare first above written.

Signed sealed & d^lld
in the p^rsence of
Bartholomew Barnard
John Allyn



the marke a
of Toto seal

Totoe personally appeared in Hartford
June 28th 1686 & acknowledged the above
written to be his free & voluntary act
& Deed before mee

John Allyn
Assist^t of his Ma^{ties}
Collony of Connecticutt.

This deed a true Record recorded by mee James
Cornish, Clerk of Hampshire this 25th of
March 1689.

This deed is recorded in Hampshire County land records in Volume A at page 111.

Having read Toto's deed carefully, two facts stand out clearly and definitely amid the surrounding uncertainty. First, the land conveyed was bounded easterly by Westfield, and second, it was to be six miles square or "the contents thereof," to wit: thirty-six square miles, if the area was not square. Just how long it was to be from north to south does not appear nor how wide from east to west. As a matter of fact it was bounded on the south by the town of Simsbury, Connecticut.

Thus the first page of Granville's history had been written, although it was extremely indefinite and nebulous. A color of title

had been created and the stage was set for the next development. Although a virgin wilderness, without name and without settler, the train of events which was later to develop into the town of Granville was started.

James Cornish held tightly to his deed from Toto until March 25, 1689, when it was recorded in the land records of Hampshire County by himself as "Clerk of Hampshire." What became of him after that date is somewhat uncertain, but it is believed he went to Simsbury, Connecticut, to live with one of his sons after the departure of the Royal Governor from New England, as there appears to have been a new Clerk of Hampshire soon after Andross had departed.

James Cornish had two children, Gabriel and James Jr. James Cornish, Senior, died October 29, 1698, without leaving a will, and the effect of his death, so far as the town of Granville is concerned, was to vest the title to his mountain wilderness in his two sons, Gabriel and James Jr.

Gabriel Cornish married and had two children, James and Damaris, and he died in 1702 without leaving a will. So Gabriel's interest in the Granville land became vested in his children, James and Damaris. Thus there came to be three owners of the land originally conveyed by Toto, viz: James Cornish, Jr., who later became a deacon of the church in Simsbury for a quarter of a century, having a half interest in the thirty-six square miles of Granville hills, and James and Damaris Cornish, the children of Gabriel having the other half interest, and in this condition the title remained a few more years.

James Cornish, the son of Gabriel, went to live with an uncle in Wethersfield, Connecticut, and feeling the urge of adventure, joined Queen Anne's army or navy, probably in the summer of 1710 when he was twenty-two years old. Before going away from his uncle's home, however, he made his will which is dated August 17, 1710, wherein he states that he is "being bound in Her Majesties service to Port Royal" and being of sound mind, etc. He was unmarried. His father was dead. So he devised all his estate to his sister Damaris, or "Dammery" as the name is spelled in the will, and particularly mentions his "real estate in the township of Westfield." It is

quite likely he did not know where the bounds of Westfield were, and mentioned the name of Westfield as covering all the region about that village.

Shortly after her brother had sailed away for Port Royal, Damaris was married, April 2, 1711, to William Tuller, of Simsbury, whose name is sometimes found as Tuller, or Tullar, and in some places it looks like Fuller. About this time news of the death of her soldier brother came back from Port Royal, because the will of James Cornish dated August 17, 1710, was offered for probate on July 2, 1711, and in court it was proved and allowed. The Court appointed William Tuller to be the administrator, c. t. a., who proceeded to settle the estate. In this way Damaris became possessed of her brother's title to the wilderness estate on the frontier. Thus the owners of Granville had been reduced to two, viz: James Cornish, Jr., who had become the deacon, and Damaris Tuller. Both the Deacon and Damaris lived in Simsbury. So much for the title.

The impulse of speculation, the getting of much for little, still remained to be reckoned with, which in a few months caused events to move up another notch nearer to settlement.

Atherton Mather, a planter living in the town of Suffield, which was then within the jurisdiction of the Province of the Massachusetts Bay, had found out that the wilderness land in the hills west of Westfield could be bought at a price. He looked the proposition over, prospected around among the hills and finally agreed to pay £30 in current bills of credit for this strip of wilderness. The transaction was consummated on June 26, 1713, in Simsbury before Samuel Humphries (or Humphry), Justice of the Peace. Once more the parties to the transfer of this thirty-six square miles of mountains went home happy; the sellers with their £30, and the buyer with his deed. It will be noted that land values had risen in these hills in twenty-seven years, from the traditional gun and sixteen brass buttons to £30.

The following is a copy of the deed from James Cornish and William and Damaris Tuller to Atherton Mather:

Know all men by these presents that we James Cornish and William Tuller, both of the Town of Simsbury in the County of

Hartford & Collony of Connecticut, In New England for Divers Considerations & Especially for the valuable sum of thirty pounds In bills of publick Credit secured to be paid the receipt whereof we do hereby acknowledge, doe for our selves our heires Executors Administrators; sell alienate set over & Confirm unto Atherton Mather of the town of Suffield In the County of Hamisheir, in the Massachusetts Collony a certain tract of land Lying near the township of Westfeild Stony Brook & Simsbury containing six miles square be it more or less or the contents thereof, bounded on land granted to Will^m Leet Esq^r southerly & by Land granted unto John Williams of Windsor northerly & runs westerly towards Housatunnuck & easterly by the land belonging to Westfeild by the road running from the lower end of the ponds unto two mile Brook near Westfeild on a straight line, to him his heirs Executors Administrators of assigns. To Have and to Hold posses occupie and enjoy according to the tenor of an Instrument of Conveyance Given by Toto Indian Captain unto James Cornish Deceased bearing date the tenth of June one thousand six hundred Eighty six, as fully freely & Clearly as we our selves doe, without any let hinderance or Molestation or whatsoever, with all o^r title Rite Interest with all privileges profits streams timbers mines minerals or other advantages whatsoever & we James Cornish & William Fuller for our selves and heirs Doe hereby Warrant unto the said Atherton Mather, that from all former gifts Grants bargains & Incumbrances whatsoever & from all Claims & Claimes Deriving any Right from by of under Us Will forever Defend, & we doe hereby Confirm the aboves^d Premisses unto s^d Atherton Mather himself & heirs forever as witness o^r hands & seales this twenty sixth of June Annoq^e Domini one thousand seven hundred & thirteen.

Signed Sealed & Delivered

James Cornish and seal

In presence of us

William Tuller and seal

Timothy Woodbridge

John Fuller

John Colyer

I Damarise the wife of William Tuller do give my free Consent to the above Conveyance as witness my hand the day & year above.

her

Damaris X Tuller

mark

James Cornish and William Tuller the subscribers to the within mentioned premises Personally appeared In Simsbury this 26th of June 1713 & acknowledged it to be their free & voluntary act and Deed before me.

Samuel Humphries Justice peace.

On the 13th day of August 1715 This Deed was Received and was then here Registered from the original.

John Pynchon Regs^t

It may be here noted that at the time this deed was executed the law was such in Connecticut that a husband could dispose of any property of his wife with or without her consent.

So another page in the history of Granville had been written, but as yet it was only wilderness without either name or settlers.

In most newly settled regions boundary lines are vague and uncertain and when such conditions exist, disputes are likely to arise. In the period of settlement the boundary line between the Province of the Massachusetts Bay and the Colony of Connecticut was no exception. Many, and sometimes hot, were the disputes as to just where the Provincial line was, and whether a farm, and sometimes whether an entire town, was within the jurisdiction of the Province or the Colony. Disputes and arguments became so heated that at last a joint Commission was appointed to settle the matter, establish the line and, with the two Governors, hear any complaints which might arise therein and quiet the title of any one affected by the establishment of the divisional line. This Commission, after sundry sessions, finally reached an agreement as to the location of the correct line between Massachusetts and Connecticut on July 13, 1713, which was less than three weeks after Atherton Mather had become the owner of the tract of wilderness "lying west of Westfeild" and bordering on Connecticut.

Realizing clearly that the agreement of the Boundary Commission might jeopardize his title, Mather at once filed his claim with the Commission and in due time it was heard and a decision thereon was rendered October 19, 1713, as follows:

Whereas an agreement for the Stating and Setling the divisional line between the Province of the Massachusetts Bay and the Colony of Connecticut and quieting the properties of land bordering thereon made and Concluded the thirteenth day of July Anno Domini 1713 between Elisha Hutchinson, Isaac Addington Esq^{rs} on the one part of the said province and William Pitkin and William Whiting Esq^{rs} on the part of the said Colony, Commissioners Appointed and Impowered for the said Ends by the Respective Governments of the said Province and Colony,

It is considered that the Challenges of many particular persons to land near or about the said line could not be made known to be determined by the said Commissioners as the particular properties of some persons where—(sic) And it is thereupon provided that all such Persons should have Liberty Within the space of Twelve Months next Ensuing the date of said Agreement to lay before his Excellency Joseph Dudley Esq^r, Present Governor of the s^d Province and the Honorable Gurdon Saltonstall Esq^r, present Governor of the s^d Colony, together with the said Commissioners, Such there Challenges and Claims to be by them heard and Finally determined and Whereas pursuant to the said provision the Claim of James Cornish Sen^r of Westfield in the County of Hampshire and in the province aforesaid and his assigns to a certain Tract of land bordering in the s^d Divisionall line has been laid before us the Subscribers Which said Tract of land Containeth in Quantity Six miles Square and is bounded by land Granted by Toto an Indian Sachem unto William Lette Esq^r Southerly and by land Granted by s^d Toto unto John Williams of Windsor northerly & Runs Westerly Towards Housetunnuck bounded by the Mountains and Easterly by land belonging to Westfeild or Springfeild by y^e Highway or Road Running from y^e lower End of y^e ponds unto two Mile Brook near Westfeild and it appearing to us that y^e s^d Tract of land was granted to y^e s^d Cornish his heirs & assigns forever by deed mad and Executed in due form bearing date y^e tenth day of June 1683, (*sic*),* Acknowledged as y^e law Requires y^e twenty Eighth day of y^e same month and Enrolled in the Records of y^e s^d County.

Wee have Considered and Determined and do hereby Conclude and Determine that the s^d Tract of land Excepting Only all such parts of it as may happen to fall within the bounds of the Towns of Westfield or Suffield in the Province afores^d or within the Bounds of the Towns of Windsor or Symsbury in the Colony afores^d and Excepting also all such parts of it as may have been given by the respective Governments of the said Province and Colony to any other person or persons by any act Grant or Conveyance Prior to y^e said deed with all y^e Priviledges thereunto belonging Shall be held by the Said Grantee his heirs and assigns forever in testimony whereof wee have hereunto Set our hands the nineteenth day of October in the Twelfth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lady Ann of Great Britain &c Queen Annoq Dom 1713.

J. Dudley

G. Saltonstall

Elisha Hutchinson

Js. Addington

William Pitkin

Wm. Whiting

* The year 1683 is a scrivener's error. The date of the deed from Toto to James Cornish is 1686.

A true Copy of Record.

Exam^d per Hez. Wyllys, Secret^{ry}.†

Atherton Mather was a very different sort of man from James Cornish. Having secured a confirmation of his title by the Boundary Commission and Governors, his next idea was to turn his land into cash. This could not be done so quickly. He realized that land, even though it were fertile, or covered with timber, as were the Granville hills, was of little value unless the land was tilled or the timber cut. He knew that settlers were necessary. Settlers must be had, and as a preliminary to settlers, others beside himself must be interested in the development of his wild land. So he forthwith set about creating such interest as the first step in turning his land into money. His acquaintance must have been wide or his business connections extensive or his energy without limit. In about twenty years he had sold the entire area between the western boundary of Westfield and the Farmington River, apparently interpreting the expression contained in Toto's deed "*Westerly towards housatunnik*" as "westerly to a river" (now known as Farmington) and the expression "six myles square or the contents thereof" as being of no significance. More than one-third of the buyers of this land lived in Boston, Marlboro or Lancaster, Massachusetts, and many are described as living in Hartford, Wethersfield and Mansfield, Connecticut. Others lived in nearby towns, Simsbury, Suffield, Westfield, Springfield, Northampton, Hatfield.

Atherton Mather's first deed is dated August 13, 1715, conveying 2000 acres in three pieces in the southeasterly part of his tract, to Dr. Oliver Noyes, of Boston, for the consideration of "a certain sum of Currant Money of New England." and is recorded in Hampshire County land records in Volume C at page 80.

For the next few years Mather found that sales of his wild land were not easy to make. Without doubt he felt the need of having a name by which he could refer to his wilderness, because in his next deed which is dated April 7, 1719, conveying 1400 acres to his son William, he describes the land as lying "in the tract of land called Bedford lying west of Westfield." So at last the wilderness which was to develop into the present Town of Granville had acquired a

† Massachusetts Archives, Records of Governor and Council, Town Series, Volume 114, page 291.

name, as it was said to be commonly called Bedford as early as 1722, and a long step toward settlement had been taken. It is not known either how or why this name of Bedford was chosen, but chosen it was and this name was used for the next twenty-five years.

Now, having adopted a name for his corner in the frontier wilderness, and having made two sales in six years, thereby securing the interest, and perhaps help, of at least two other persons, he moved more rapidly toward success. Two more deeds were made and delivered in 1719; three in 1720; five in 1721 and ten in 1722. Clearly, the ball had begun to roll.

In giving the location of the land described in his deeds, Mr. Mather used varying phrases, some of which are as follows: "in the bounds of Bedford" (1719); "in Bedford, so-called" (1721); "lying and being in Bedford, commonly Soe Called" (1722); "At a Place or Plantation commonly called Bedford" (1723); "in a place known by the name of Bedford" (1724); "lying in my plantation called Bedford" (1724).

In this manner, it is believed, arose the habit of referring to this area as the Plantation of Bedford. A Plantation, however, presupposes the existence of planters, or farmers, and there was as yet not a single settler or planter in Bedford, but the title sounded well, and so it was used.

An extremely exact and comprehensive statement of what an early New England plantation was, is that of Dr. William DeLoss Love in his classic work, *The Colonial History of Hartford*. He says:

"In common usage the term 'plantation' was applied to an original settlement in a new country, where certain individuals, called 'inhabitants,' had secured land rights. There was an important distinction between such a settlement and an organized town, especially in the matter of government. Its affairs were ordered in a meeting of these legal inhabitants. They met, elected a moderator, passed votes and appointed committees to carry them out."

This procedure is exactly that followed by the settlers in Bedford. Mr. Mather merely used the term fifteen or more years before settlers began to arrive.

Another thing which assisted toward settlement was the fact that parts, if not all, of Bedford were surveyed and boundary points established as early, at least, as 1721, and probably before 1719.

The northeast part of Bedford was partly surveyed by one Jonas Houghton as appears by a reference in a deed from Atherton Mather to Timothy Woodbridge, of Simsbury, and William Mather dated February 6, 1723/4, recorded in Hampshire County land records in Volume E at page 167, conveying 2000 acres "included in a survey by Jonas Houghton May 9, 1721, which contained 2500 acres, 500 of which were conveyed to William Mather Apr. 7, 1719."

Another survey is mentioned in a deed from Atherton Mather to Thomas Boylston of Boston, dated March 9, 1731/2, and recorded in the above mentioned records in Volume F at page 203 conveying 1000 acres "according to a survey and Platt thereof made Nov. 1721 by Mr. Timothy Dwight, Surveyor." Timothy Dwight lived in Northampton at that time and Mr. Mather had conveyed to him 1000 acres on April 11, 1722.

Still another survey is referred to in a deed from Atherton Mather to John Arnold of Mansfield, Connecticut, dated October 12, 1725, and recorded in the above mentioned records in Volume D at page 623, conveying 1000 acres "laid out by Mr. Surveyor Dwight, May 1723."

It is most probable that these three surveys were of comparatively small areas and that there was no single survey of the entire area lying between Westfield and the Farmington River until 1738, which will be mentioned later.

On October 19, 1733, Mather sold and conveyed his last bit of land in Bedford. It was about twenty years after he had bought the mountain wilderness "lying west of Westfeild" and had paid £30 for it. If he received all the consideration set forth in his forty-four deeds of the land in Bedford, and there is no reason to believe he did not receive it, he took in the substantial sum of £5317 18s. A very nice sum to realize on an investment of £30, even if it did take twenty years to get it. To be sure, surveying cost something, but not such a great lot, and he had no taxes to pay, no upkeep for roads and bridges, no insurance for buildings. This had been one land speculation which proved to be successful and demonstrated the accurate foresight of James Cornish when he bought the hunting ground from Toto nearly a half century before. Land values had

again risen in the Granville hills. This time from £30 to over £5300. Thus another page of Granville history had been turned. A name had been secured, the owners of the land had been greatly increased, but still the imperative need was settlers.

The only trace of settlers in the deeds of Atherton Mather is found in a deed from him to his son William dated May 15, 1729, conveying two pieces of land, the first of which was one mile square "which has buildings erected on it Called by the name of a Cellar." Just what sort of a building this might have been, the reader may, or may not, be able to guess. It may have been intended for the basement of a dwelling, or it may have been an underground room, perhaps in the side of a hill. Most likely the latter. But whatever it was, it evidenced an intention of some one to live there. This is the earliest record, so far as known, of a definite permanent abode within the area of Bedford.

One element in the policy of Atherton Mather did not lend itself to securing settlers. With very few exceptions, all his conveyances of land in Bedford were to people living remote from that place. These people had no idea of going to Bedford to live and probably very few, if any, ever saw any portion of the tract, or even the sky over it. They were just speculators, men who had purchased large acreage with the expectation of selling it again at an advance in price. They cared nothing about the actual settlement of Bedford. All they were interested in was *profits*. But they all faced the same condition. The land must be tilled and the lumber cut. All of which came to one and the same thing: settlers. Settlers must be had; settlers at any cost. If they could not be prevailed on to buy land in Bedford, then land must be given to them if they would settle on it.

This vital factor of securing settlers forced itself upon the proprietors some time between 1722 and, probably, 1736 when preparations were being made for the survey dated November 12, 1738, of which we shall hear more later. Whatever policy may have been suggested, and whatever plans were made to meet this imperative need of the proprietors, we know the result. It was determined to donate a certain proportion of the land in Bedford to those who would come in and settle. It was to be a gift and each proprietor was to give one-fifth of his holding, whether large or small. The

land so given to settlers as a premium for settling in Bedford is spoken of in many places as "settling land" or "settling lots." The original document showing this agreement bears neither date nor signatures. If it did, it would clear up a lot.

It is mutually agreed by us y^e Subscribers that if any proprietor lose his Land or any part thereof that is in the Northern or Western Range the rest of us the Subscribers agree to bear their proportion of y^e Loss according to their respective Interests.

Every proprietor shall give a fifth part of his Land in order to y^e bringing forward y^e plantation whereof 4000 Acres shall be given to 40 persons to settle y^e residue to be disposed off for publick uses as y^e proprietors shall think proper.*

Tradition has it that Samuel Bancroft was the first settler in Bedford, arriving in 1735, but it is interesting to note that no deed of land in Bedford is on record showing Samuel Bancroft to be a land owner until one from Jonas Clark, of Boston, dated April 28, 1759, and recorded on August 13th, of that year, which described a plot of land about one mile square "excepting out of the same 100 acres granted to the said Samuel Bancroft and 18 acres granted to Nathaniel Bancroft for settling land." This clearly shows that 100 acres of land had been given to Samuel Bancroft at some time prior to 1759 to induce him to settle there. It is to be regretted that no record evidence has yet come to light about that "100 acres of settling land," given to him. Rev. Timothy M. Cooley, in his address at the Granville Jubilee in 1845, says he remembers Samuel Bancroft, the first settler, and that he used to come to church in his great wig and cocked hat, a conspicuous character. The late Wilbur S. Jones, who was born in the northeasterly part of the town, not far from the site of the Bancroft homestead, in 1846, and lived in Granville all his life, told the writer that the site of the Samuel Bancroft house was on the west side of the original road from Westfield to Granville where the road formerly went through the hollow which is now covered by the water in the Granville Reservoir of the City of Westfield. It was near the place where Henry Hollister used to live, and is about half a mile from the four corners where the Wild Cat Road branches to the west from the present location of

* Massachusetts Archives, Town Series, Records of the Governor and Council, Volume 114, page 295.

the Old Road to Westfield and the now private road of the City of Westfield branches to the east. Mr. Jones said no one had ever lived at the Bancroft location since he could remember, but he clearly recalled having been told when a small boy that that was the place.

King Philip's war had broken out in 1674 and was over long before James Cornish cast longing eyes in the direction of the Granville hills, and it seems a far cry to say that that war had anything to do with the settlement of Bedford, but that fact appears upon a little investigation. It came about in this way. Like the general run of Indian raids and warfare, the brunt of King Philip's war fell upon the outlying and exposed settlements. The fringe of civilization dwelling on the frontier felt the shock of the heavy blows. When an Indian war was in progress, the frontier settlers abandoned their farms and villages and fled to larger villages and other places of safety for protection. If they did not so flee, they quite generally were killed.

After the death and destruction suffered in King Philip's war, the Great and General Court of the Massachusetts Bay considered the situation and, believing it could remedy the condition, at least in some degree, passed a law on May 28, 1679, which was expected to operate for greater safety for all pioneer settlements. This law explains itself. It is as follows:

For the greater comfort and safety of all people who are intended to resettle the villages deserted in the late war, or the *planting any new Plantation* within this Jurisdiction,

It is Ordered and Enacted by this Court, and the Authority thereof; That no deserted Town, or *new Plantation shall be inhabited* until the people first make application unto the Governour and Council, or to the County Courts, within whose Jurisdiction such Plantation is. And the Council, or the County Court, are hereby Ordered and Impowered to appoint an able & discreet Committee (at the charge of the people intending to plant) which Committee are Ordered and Impowered to view and consider the place, or places to be settled, and give directions and orders in writing, under their hands, in what form and manner such town shall be settled and erected wherein they are required to have a principal respect to nearness and conveniency of habitation for security against Enemyes, and more comfort for Christian Communion and

enjoyment of God's worship, and education of Children in Schools and Civility, with other good ends. And all such planters are hereby Injoynd to attend and put in practice such orders and directions as shall be given by such Committee upon the penalty of one hundred pounds Fine to the Country, to be inflicted upon them by order of the Council, or County Courts for their neglect or refusal to attend this order.

Approved May 28, 1679.

Colonial Laws of Massachusetts 1672-1686, page 267.

The effect of this law upon Bedford was to compel the proprietors to submit their plans of settlement to one of the authorities mentioned in the statute, for approval and terms of settlement which they must meet. This was done a little later as we shall see.

About this time another thing came to pass to annoy and vex the proprietors. It was rumored, and finally said out loud, that there was trouble about the title. Some went so far as to point out that the proprietors had no title whatever to the larger part of Bedford. This defect was stoutly denied, but it was impossible to cover it up or keep it quiet. As time passed and habitations were erected farther away from Westfield, the settlers and proprietors began to fear that the confirmation of the title in 1713 by the Boundary Commission and Governors was not sufficient. That confirmation only covered six miles square. Bedford had come to be much more than six miles square. Indeed, it was, after the re-location of the Provincial line between Massachusetts and Connecticut, about five miles wide at the east end, about nine miles wide at the west end and about fifteen miles long from east to west. It was high time something was done about it and the proprietors rose to the occasion.

We can well believe that sundry meetings were held at which there was much wagging of heads, because it was finally decided that the only way out of the trouble was to have a petition prepared and presented to the Great and General Court, praying for relief, and a survey and map of Bedford must be made, to help clarify the petition. In the late fall of 1738 such a survey was finished. John Hunt, Jonas Clarke, John Wendell and Belcher Noyes were chosen as a Committee to see that the petition was made and presented. The phraseology used in the petition indicates that it was

prepared by some one accustomed to such work and the handwriting shows it was written by a practiced scrivener. Probably it was done by some lawyer or magistrate in Boston, as all the names affixed to the document were those of proprietors residing in Boston. The petition was as follows:

To his Excellency Jonathan Belcher, Esq., Captain General & Govern^r in Chief, the Honourable the Council & House of Representatives in General Court Assembled November 29th 1738, The Petition of us the Subscribers for our Selves and Sundry others, Most Humbly Sheweth

That your Petitioners about twenty Years Since Purchased by Distinct Deeds and at Different times, Sundry tracts of land at a Place called Bedford, of Mr. Atherton Mather; whose title We understood was Acknowledged and Confirmed by the General Court of the Province at the Settling the Divisional line between the Province and the Colony of Connecticut Anno 1713; On which line the tract of land abutts all along on the South side; and as your Petitioners were at many Thousands of Pounds cost in purchasing, so they have also Expended much in Surveying said Land, in building a Saw mill and Settling Several Families now actually on it; and in providing For sundry others, purposing to settle there in the year Ensuing, for Whose Encouragement they have also agreed to give Sundry Tracts of Land for publick uses, & Considerable towards an House for publick Divine Worship & Sixty pounds per annum For three Years towards The Support of an orthodox Minister.

Your Petitioners beg leave to Assure your Excellency and Honours that they had never purchased these Lands, had They known of any Difficulty Concerning the title, and they would Also Humbly observe that this title was Declared good by the Govern^r and Gentlemen Appointed to Settle the aforesaid Province Line, and to Determine Concerning the lands bordering on it; and that Nothing has been done in this long tract of time by this Honourable Court to Discountenance your Petitioners proceedings, and our Purchase has been so universally Esteemed to be fair and equitable as that no particular person has laid any grant of this Court upon it, notwithstanding the great numbers that have been made,

Wherefore

Your Petitioners would Humbly Pray your Excellency and Honours to Confirm the said Lands to the Respective purchasers as the s^d lands are described and bounded in the Plan herewith Humbly Presented, on Such moderate Conditions as (all circumstances con-

sidered) to your great wisdom and Goodness shall Seem meet and your Petitioners (as in duty bound) shall ever pray &c.

John Hunt
Jonas Clarke
John Wendell
Belcher Noyes*

This petition was duly presented to the Great and General Court and was acted upon without much delay. The notation is as follows:

In the House of Repres. Dec^r 19th, 1738.

Read and Voted that Col^o Saltonstal, Col^o Chandler & Col^o Alden be a Comt^{ee} to consider the petition & examine the plat of the Land within referred to & herewith exhibited & report their opinion of w^t may be proper for the Court to do thereupon.

In about three weeks the above named Committee made its report to the House of Representatives, as follows:

The Committee appointed to Consider the Petition of John Hunt and Others, Proprietors of a Tract of Land known by the name of Bedford, Having met several times and duly Considered the Merits of that Affair Do Report:

That Twenty three Thousand and Forty Acres part of the Land described in the Plat referred to in & exhibited with said Petition were formerly the Estate of One Toto an Indian Captain and by him sold in the year Sixteen Hundred and Eighty Six to One James Cornish, who together with One William Fuller (Tuller) in the year Seventeen Hundred and Thirteen sold the same to Atherton Mather.

That the said Cornish's Interest in the Premises was Confirmed in the year Seventeen Hundred and Thirteen by His Excellency Governour Dudley and Elisha Hutchinson and Isaac Addington, Esquires, Impowered by this Province, and the Honourable Govern^r Saltonstal and William Pitkin and William Whiting, Esquires, Impowered by the Colony of Connecticut for the aforesaid purpose,

That said Mather sold the Premises together with other adjacent Land to the Petitioners or those under whom they Claim, Who gave large Purchase Consideration therefor,

That altho the said Mather sold the whole of the said Land described in said Plat, yet it does not appear that the said Mather had any right so to do, of which nevertheless the Petitioners were at the Time of their respective Purchases altogether Ignorant,

That the Purchasers supposing the said Mather's Title to be

* Massachusetts Archives, Town Series, Records of the Governor and Council, Volume 114, page 289.

good have already settled some Families on the Premises and do propose to settle more, Build a Meeting House &c,

The Committee are therefore Humbly of the Opinion that the Land mentioned and Described in the aforesaid Plat be Confirmed to the Persons therein mentioned and to their respective heirs forever according to the proportion therein set to each Person, Upon Condition the Persons mentioned in said Plat Do within the term of Three years from the End of the Present Session of this Court, Build so many Dwelling Houses thereon of Eighteen feet Square and Seven feet Stud at the least as shall with what are already built make Seventy in the whole and have Seventy Families settled therein and for each of the said Families have Six Acres of Land brought to, and Plowed or brought to English Grass and fitted for Mowing, And Do also within said Time Build a Meeting House for the Publick Worship of God, and Settle a Learned Orthodox Minister.

All which is Humbly Submitted

In the Name and by Order of said Committee.

Rich^d Saltonstal

In the Ho. of Repves. Jan^y 5, 1738.

Read & Accepted.*

The House, having accepted the report of the Committee, voted the same day to confirm the title of the then owners of the entire tract from Westfield to the Farmington River upon the conditions set forth in the report of the Committee quoted above. Volume 115, page 759. The wording of the vote is identical with that of the report. The vote of the House was concurred in by the Council and approved by the governor. Volume 114, page 290.

The plat, or map, mentioned in the petition, report of the Committee and the vote of the House has become separated from the petition, but it is carefully preserved in the Massachusetts Archives in Boston. It shows the entire area of Bedford, as it extended from what is now Southwick on the east to what is now Sandisfield on the west, which was divided into fifty-two parcels owned privately, of irregular size and shape, containing from 50 acres to 2534 acres, and one lot near the northwest corner of Bedford containing 2370 upon which the surveyor marked "For Publick uses." The reason for designating this particular lot in that way does not appear. The

* Massachusetts Archives, Town Series, Records of the Governor and Council, Volume 114, page 296.

appearance of the lots on this map brings to mind the one time fashionable "crazy patchwork."

The surveyor's certificate which the map bears is interesting for various reasons. It is as follows:

This Plan Contains 42532 Acres of Land including three Ponds, Lying in the County of hampshire Commonly Called Bedford and Claimed by Sundry persons whose names together with their Sea-verall interest are Discribed by the plan and are the Assignes of Mr. Atherton Mather who by mean Convayences held the same under one Toto an Indian Sachem an owner of S^d Land it bounds Southerly upon the Colony Line or the dividing Line between this Government and the Colony of Connecticut & Eastwardly upon westfield Northwardly partly by westfield partly by Suffield Equivalent, alias Glasgow, partly by Countery Land and Westwardly upon farmington river Great branch Dividing this tract of Land from a new township Called No 3 the Survey thereof was made by the assistance of Jonathan Worthington and Capt. Joseph Winchell, Chainmen, the Line was Run by the nedle of the Instrument and it is Laid down By a scale of 240 rd to one inch.

Nov. 12, 1738.

Nath^a Dwight, Surveyor.

And then apparently to make his plan carry more weight with the legislators, he went to Boston and there made oath to it as being correct and accurate, as follows:

Suffolk, ss. Boston, December the 20, 1738.

then Nath^a Dwight, Surveyor of this tract of Land described in this plan personaly apeared and mad oath that it is also acording to the best of his knoedg and Judgment.

Sworn Before me

John Fisher, Jus. of Peac.

Furthermore, not only is this ancient map in existence and in proper custody, but also fortunately the Town of Granville has in its possession Nathaniel Dwight's description of the location and size of each individual ownership appearing on the map. These descriptions are in the form of a manuscript folio, which for many years was stored away with other Town papers and lost sight of. It came to light not many years ago due to the care and quick perception of the late Town Clerk, Silas B. Root. The outside leaf, or cover, of the old manuscript is inscribed as follows:

A Description and Survey
of the
Town of Granville
formerly called
Bedford

November 12th 1738

The first page of the manuscript purports to be a copy of the certificate on the map, but it contains errors and not a few alterations which were made by the copyist who doubtless thought he could improve on the original. It was copied March 21, 1757, by Simon Parsons, Surveyor. Also to the descriptions set down by Nathaniel Dwight are added the descriptions of many other lots which by that time (1757) had come to be owned by other persons.

A survey like this could not be made in a few weeks. It is doubtful if it could be made in a year. However, it was made and sent to the Great and General Court to show how far the locality had been developed and what an injustice would be done if the title was not confirmed by the authorities. It had been a great expense for the proprietors and settlers to have so much time and labor used for the survey, but it had to be done or their title would fall flat. The result of it was to secure confirmation and that very quickly, as legislative action usually goes. By means of this survey the people of Bedford got what they went after. Another thing they secured, is a very valuable historical document which they would not have had except for the bold cupidity of Atherton Mather. If he had been content to sell only such land as he bought from Toto, there would have been no trouble about the title and if no trouble had arisen there would have been no survey. It is very likely that no other town in the Commonwealth now has a complete survey of its entire area which was made within fifteen years after its first settlement.

A copy of the original field book of Nathaniel Dwight containing his notes of the survey of 1738 came into the possession of Belcher Noyes, of Boston, the proprietors' clerk, and was delivered by him to Col. Timothy Robinson September 17, 1762, and when last heard of was in the possession of Chauncey B. Fowler, of Granville, in the latter part of the eighteenth century. This same Mr. Fowler also had a copy of the survey of a portion of Granville made by

Ebenezer Curtiss November 12 and 13, 1785. It is not known what part of the town the Curtiss survey covered.

The following is a list of the owners of land in Granville, as shown on the map of 1738:

John Ashley	Samuel Kent, two pieces
John Beacham	Cris. Jacob Laiston and Samuel Palmer
Thomas Belden	Cotton Mather's heirs
James Bowdoin	Dr. Samuel Mather
Thomas Boylston	William Mather
Gershom Brigham	Dr. Noyes, two pieces
Nathan Brigham, two pieces	Samuel Palmer
John Burt	Moses Parsons
James Church	Quincy, Wendell and Byles, three pieces
Jonas Clark	Josiah Sheldon
Nathaniel Clark	Jonathan Steal
John Dolbear, two pieces	Anthony Stoddard
Henry Dwight's heirs	Victory Sikes
John Eliot	E. Taylor
Rubin Ely	Dr. Ebenezer Terry
Col. Fitch's heirs	John Webb, two pieces
Thomas Foxcroft, two pieces	Samuel Webb
Samuel Gillit's heirs, two pieces	Worthington and Hathaway, two pieces
Jonas Hough	One lot for public uses
Rowland Houghton	
John Hunt, three pieces	
Robert Jenkins	

Being thrifty, forward-looking men, the proprietors of Bedford proceeded to kill two birds with one stone. Inasmuch as they had to have the legislature straighten out their title, they made the most of the opportunity, and petitioned for authority to set up a local government and pass such votes in an orderly manner as might be found necessary for carrying on the settlement. Roads and a minister would be needed and that meant taxes. So, while their representatives were at it, they secured the passage of the following act.

In the House of Representatives January 19th, 1738.
Ordered that Anthony Stoddard Esquire, a Principal Proprietor of a New Township called Bedford in the County of Hampshire Be and hereby is fully Authorized and Impowered to Assemble and Convene the Proprietors of said New Township in some Convenient Time and Suitable Place To Chuse a Proprietors Clerk and to pass such Votes and Orders as They shall judge necessary for

carrying on the settlement of the s^d New Township in the most Speedy Manner agreeable to the Conditions of the Grant And to agree how to call meetings for the future.*

The Council concurred January 23rd and the Governor gave his approval.

Now, having secured a conditional confirmation of their title and also authority to conduct a rather free and easy sort of civil government, the proprietors set about complying with the condition. For nearly twenty years they had wanted settlers. Now it had come to the point where they must have them—seventy families by the 9th of January, 1741. Truly a Herculean task, but what must be done is very likely to get done, especially if it hits hard on the pocketbook.

As soon as it was noised about that land could be had in Bedford for the taking, settlers began to come. It was the same impulse which caused most other hill towns in New England to be settled. Land. Good land, cheap. So, when Bedford was offering 100 acres to any one who would come there and live, make a clearing in the wilderness, build an abode and have six acres in grass at the end of three years, prospective settlers were anxious to look that proposition over. One fact in this connection is very interesting. In some way David Rose, who lived in Durham, in the Colony of Connecticut, heard about this Promised Land. He came to Bedford. Looked the place over. Liked it so well that he picked out his 100 acres, built a cabin, started his clearing and moved his family there. He also purchased 1500 acres more in 1741. Here is the interesting part. Either David Rose had great powers of persuasion, or else he was looked up to as a man of good judgment, for as a result of his settling in Bedford no less than twenty-six other families very soon came from Durham to the "new Township." The names of these Durham settlers are as follows:

Amos Baldwin
Ebenezer Baldwin
Ezra Baldwin
Benjamin Barnes
Isaac Bartlett
David Bates

Jacob Bates
John Bates
John Bates, Jr.
Nathaniel Bates
Aaron Coe
Enoch Coe

* Massachusetts Archives, Town Series, Records of the Governor and Council, Volume 114, page 329.

Samuel Coe
 Aaron Curtis
 David Curtis
 Ebenezer Curtis
 Roswell Graves
 Stephen Hitchcock
 Benjamin Parsons
 David Parsons
 Phinehas Robins
 Dan Robinson
 Noah Robinson

Timothy Robinson
 John Seward
 John Tibbals
 and perhaps others.
 Later came from Durham
 Thomas Spelman (1756)
 Israel Bartlett (1758)
 Ezra Baldwin, Jr. (1764)
 Jonathan Rose, after a few years'
 residence in Enfield, Connecticut.

So far as can be learned no other group of this size came from any other single town, but they came in ones, twos and threes from towns in Connecticut and Massachusetts, and the in-coming tide kept up till more than the required seventy families had arrived.

Abel Curtis, who purchased 240 acres in 1734, was the first blacksmith. Jonathan Rose was granted as his "settling land" the lot laid out as the Saw Mill Lot. He had operated a saw mill in Enfield, Connecticut, prior to coming to Bedford. Phineas Pratt, a strong man, of whom more hereinafter, by two removes, came from Hingham, Massachusetts, at the age of thirty, with his young wife and child, and received his 100 acres of "settling land" in 1741. His gravestone tells us much about him. The inscription is as follows:

In Memory of
 Cap^t. Phineas Pratt
 Who was born in Hingham in the County
 of Suffolk Jan. 1, 1710
 & removed to Worcester
 in Dec. 1739. From
 thence to Bedford
 now Granville in
 May 1741, And
 died Sept. 5, 1779.

Phineas Pratt had much to do with the important happenings in Bedford and Granville. There were others of his type, young courageous men and brave women. An industrious, God-fearing race.

So we see that the settlement of Bedford was progressing, although slowly.

However, all was not well in Bedford. The proprietors had been authorized to set up the rudiments of Town government by an act of the General Court dated January 23, 1738. They had been authorized to "pass such votes and orders as they shall judge necessary for carrying on the settlement of said new Township." At a convenient time and place a meeting was called by Anthony Stoddard, named for that duty in the act, and it must be assumed that sundry votes relating to the settlement of Bedford were passed although no record of what was done at that meeting has been found. Very probably the votes passed were in regard to conditions which soon became much changed as more settlers arrived. With the coming of settlers, came, among other things, the need for roads. That meant the levying of taxes. More settlers meant more roads, more taxes. Also a learned and orthodox minister must be settled and a meeting house erected and maintained, all of which called for taxes.

A minister had been selected. The Rev. Moses Tuttle, of New Haven, Connecticut, had accepted a call to come to Bedford and locate among the small group of pioneers, and a meeting house had been erected prior to February 25, 1747/8. The proprietors promptly granted to the new minister his 100 acres of "settling land" by the following deed:

To all Persons to whom these Presents Shall Come, Josias Byles, Shopkeeper, John Wendell, Merchant, both of Boston, in the County of Suffolk and Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England, Send Greeting: Know ye that Whereas the Proprietors of a Certain Tract of Land Commonly known by the name of Bedford lying and being within the County of Hampshire and Province aforesaid, for the Encouragement of the Settlement of a Learned and Orthodox Minister in said Place, did agree that the first Settled Minister Should have Given him as a Settlement the Lott of Land on which the Present Meeting House lately built by the Proprietors Stands, Together with the said House erected thereon for the Publick Worship only Reserving Liberty for the Inhabitants to Meet in the Same for the Publick Worship of God untill the Other Meeting House Intended to be built Shall be Compleated,

And Whereas the Present Meeting House is built on a Lott of Land laid out as part of the Proportion of Settling Land of said Josias Byles and John Wendell to be Disposed of for the Encouragement of said Settlement,

Now Know ye that we the Said Josias Byles and John Wendell in pursuance of the above agreement of said Proprietors and for Promoting the Gospel Among the Inhabitants Do hereby Give grant Convey and Confirm unto Moses Tuttle, of said Bedford, Clerk, (lately Ordained a Pastor in Said Place) his Heirs and assigns forever a certain Lott of Land In the aforesaid Tract of Land Containing one Hundred acres and is bounded as follows viz^t. beginning at the North East Corner of a Tract of Land Containing three Hundred Twenty Eight acres laid out to us Said Byles and Wendell, thence South Seventy Six perch to a Red Ash tree Marked on land of Anthony Stoddard Esq^r. Thence west Two Hundred and Ten perch to a Chectnutt tree on land of Daniel Brown, Thence North Seventy Six perch to a Stake and Stones on Land of Said Byles and Wendell, from thence East Two Hundred and Ten perch to the aforesaid North East Corner, partly on Land of Daniel Brown & partly on Land of Jonathan Church; Together with the House built thereon for the Present Meeting House only Reserving Liberty for the Inhabitants to Meet in the Same untill the Other Meeting House Intended to be built Shall be Compleated, with the appurtenances, Remainders and Reversions thereof.

To Have and To Hold the said one Hundred Acres of Land and House built thereon (Reserving Liberty as above mentioned) with the appurtenances, Remainders & Reversions thereof to him the said Moses Tuttle his heirs and Assigns forever to his and their only benefit and behoof. And we the Said Josias Byles and John Wendell for themselves their Heirs Executors and administrators Do hereby Covenant and agree to and with the Said Moses Tuttle his Heirs and assigns to Warrant and Defend Said one Hundred acres of Land with the appurtenances Remainders and Reversions thereof against the Claim and Demand of all Persons whatsoever pretending any Right thereunto from by or under them or Either of them their Heirs Executors and administrators.

In Witness whereof the said Josias Byles and John Wendell have hereunto Set our hands and Seals this Twenty fifth Day of February anno Domini one Thousand Seven Hundred and forty Seven Eight In the Twenty first year of his Majesties Reign.

Signed Sealed and Delivered

In Presence of us

Daniel Brown

John Wendell, Jun^r.

Josias Byles & Seal

John Wendell & Seal

Suffolk ss. Boston February 25th 1747/8

The above named Mess^{rs} Josias Byles and John Wendell personally appearing acknowledged the above written Instrument to be their Voluntary act & Deed,

Before me Jonas Clarke, Just. Pacis.
Rec^d April 13th, 1749 & Recorded from the Original.*

All went merrily along until it became necessary to pass more votes to meet the changing conditions due to the increasing number of settlers. Then it was discovered that the most important item in the enabling act of January 23, 1738, had been forgotten. At that first proprietors' meeting no provision had been made as to "how to call meetings for the future." Some one had blundered. There was now no authority by which a second meeting could be called. They struggled along from year to year in a sort of hand to mouth way until the pressure of a social and financial nature became so great that something must be done. These proprietors were a courageous and resourceful lot. They had overcome greater obstacles than the one now before them. They again went to the legislature with the following petition, and secured the following act:

To His Excellency William Shirley Esq^r Governour in Chief
The Honourable the Councill & House of Representatives in
General Court Assembled February 3, 1747.

The Petition of the Committee of the Proprietors of a New
Plantation called Bedford in the County of Hampshire Humbly
Sheweth,

That the said Proprietors were called together in a Meeting according to an Order of this Court by the Honourable Anthony Stoddard Esq^r when and where they were impowered among other things to agree on a Method of calling proprietors meetings for the future but so it is that at the said meeting no such provision was made & they are now unable to call a regular meeting notwithstanding the great necessity of it, wherefore your humble Petitioners pray your Excellency & Honours to impower some Proper person among said Proprietors to call a meeting when and where he shall Judge it most convenient & authorize said meeting to agree upon a Method for calling meetings hereafter & to do such other things as shall be found needfull and your Petitioners (as in duty bound) shall ever pray &c.

Samuel Welles
Jonas Clarke
Belcher Noyes

In the House of Rep^{ves} Feb^y. 25, 1747.

* Hampshire Registry of Deeds, Volume R at page 497.

Read and Ordered that the Prayer of the Pet^{rs} be granted and that Jonas Clarke Esq^r be and He hereby is Impowered to Call a Prop^{rs} Meeting at time and Place as he shall judge convenient. And that the s^d Prop^{rs} at said Meeting are hereby authorized to Agree on a Method for calling such Meetings in the future.*

In this order the Council concurred and it was approved by the Governor.

At last, in spite of every menacing difficulty, progress was being made. The only trouble about it was that it was made so slowly. It was now long after the time when the condition of the grant requiring seventy families to be in Bedford should have been complied with. Some of the proprietors appeared to have no interest in the matter and were just sitting back and letting those who were willing to do so carry the burden of getting settlers. Conferences were held and the dilatory were prodded, but not much was accomplished. The whole enterprise appeared to be on the verge of failure and unless something was done, all would be lost. But there was the source of all relief, the legislature, so to it again the proprietors turned, this time with a petition which sets forth their dilemma and asks for relief. The record is as follows:

Province of the
Massachusetts Bay
In New England }

To His Excellency William Shirley, Esq^r., Governour of said Province, To the Honourable His Majestys Councill & House of Representatives in General Court Assembled, May 25, 1748.

The petition of the Committee of the Proprietors of a new Plantation called Bedford in the County of Hampshire, by their Desire, Humbly Sheweth,

That the said Proprietors pursuant to the Conditions of their Grant from the Great & General Court for the Encouragement of said Plantation did agree upon disposing about one fifth part of their respective Interests for settling the Number of Seventy Families & accordingly laid out about one fifth part of each Proprietors share and most of said Proprietors have actually disposed of such proportion of their Land to about 50 Setlers; but there are certain Proprietors that have neglected to dispose of such of their said Proportion which greatly retarded said Settlement,

* Massachusetts Archives, Town Series, Records of the Governor and Council, Volume 115, page 241.

Wherefore your Petitioners humbly pray your Excellency & Honours that they may be enabled & impowered to dispose of such delinquent proprietors proportion of Setling Land, that so the Conditions of said Grant may be complied with & their interest thereby secured unto them. And that they may be also impowered to regulate & lay out such highways as are and may be necessary for the Inhabitants of said Place.

And your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray &c.

Samuel Wells

Jonas Clarke

Belcher Noyes

Att a meeting of the Proprietors of Bedford in the County of Hampshire pursuant to an Order of the General Court April 26, 1748,

Voted, That the Committee be desired & impowered to prefer a petition to the General Court at their next Session, that they would be pleased to empower the Committee of said Proprietors to dispose of the setling Lotts of those delinquent Proprietors who have not yet disposed of their Setling Lotts pursuant to the Conditions of Settlement.

Att a meeting of said Proprietors by Adjournment May 31, 1748,

The above Draught of a Petition to the General Court was read, & voted that the same be Accepted & presented on behalf of the Proprietors.

A true copy from the Records, entered & examined.

Belcher Noyes, Prop^{rs} Clerk.

In the House of Rep^{ves} June 7, 1748.

Read and Ordered that the Petitioners Notify the Delinquent Prop^{rs} of Bedford of this Petⁿ by Inserting the Substance thereof in the Boston Gazette three weeks succesively that so they may show cause if any they have on the first fryday of the next Sitting of this Court, why the Prayer thereof should not be granted.

The Council concurred in this order and the Governor consented. In Council Nov^r 11, 1748.

Read again & no Objection being made against the Prayer of the Petition although public notice hath been given, agreeable to the Direction of the above Order, Voted that the Prayer of the s^d Petⁿ be granted & that Samuel Welles & James Clarke Esqr & Doct^r Belcher Noyes, the above sd Comm^{tee} be & they hereby are impowered to dispose of the above mentioned Delinquent Proprietors Share or Proportion of setling Lands to such Person or Persons as will perform the Conditions of Settlement required by the Gen^l Court in the Grant of the Lands in sd tract called Bedford & sd Comm^{tee} or any two of them are hereby impowered to execute good

Deeds of every such Delinquent Proprietors proportion of settling Land, being about a fifth part of their whole Original Grant, which deed shall be good & valid to all Intents & Purposes in the Law to the respective Grantees their heirs & assigns forever, they performing the Conditions of Settlement. And the sd Comm^{tee} or any two of them are hereby also impowered, by themselves or others appointed by them to regulate & lay out such High Ways & private Ways as are or may be necessary.*

The House concurred in this order and the Governor consented.

Having set forth their difficulty and explained why there were not yet seventy families in Bedford, and having secured the relief they had asked for, we can realize that those of the proprietors who were anxious to save their enterprise from disaster could now draw a long breath. They at once set about their task of getting more settlers. They disposed of the required proportion of the land of the indifferent proprietors, giving the same by legal method to those who would come in and settle.

So the list of families slowly lengthened until at last the required number was reached and passed in 1750, when having been authorized and directed to make a report upon the condition of Bedford, the proprietors caused the following report to be filed, which gives us practically a census of that date.

Bedford in the County of Hampshire.

In pursuance of an Order of the Great and General Court passed June 20, 1750, and published in the several publick Prints,

We the Subscribers a Committee appointed by the Inhabitants of said Bedford for making Enquiry into the State of the Settlement of said Place, at the Direction of the Committee of the Proprietors of said Tract of Land, do hereby certify that the following Persons have been admitted Settlers in said Bedford, viz^t.

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. The Rev. Moses Tuttle | 10. John Howard |
| 2. Mr. David Brown | 11. Gardner Gillett |
| 3. Jonathan Church | 12. Thomas Gillet |
| 4. Jonathan Rose | 13. Samuel Palmer (now dead) |
| 5. Samuel Church | 14. Ephraim Munson |
| 6. Samuel Bancroft | 15. Nathan Barlo |
| 7. Ebenezer Holden | 16. Edmund Barlo |
| 8. Phineas Pratt | 17. Sharon Rose |
| 9. Thomas Bancroft | 18. Nathaniel Bancroft |

* Massachusetts Archives, Town Series, Records of the Governor and Council, Volume 115, page 361, et seq.

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| 19. Ebenezer Holden, Jun ^r . | 48. Samuel Coe |
| 20. Eleazer Hill (now dead) | 49. Stephen Hickox |
| 21. James Barlo | 50. John Griswold |
| 22. Samuel Church, Jun ^r . | 51. Timothy Robinson |
| 23. David Rose | 52. Moses Goffe |
| 24. Thomas Brown | 53. David Foster |
| 25. Daniel Edwards | 54. Constantine Pratt |
| 26. Daniel Rose | 55. Nathaniel Gillett |
| 27. Joseph Frink | 56. David Foster, Jun ^r . |
| 28. John Spelman | 57. Barnard Pratt |
| 29. Samuel Peirce | 58. Eleazer Hill, Jun ^r . |
| 30. Jacob Brown | 59. Samuel Benjamin |
| 31. Ezekiel Sweatman | 60. William Jacob |
| 32. Thomas Sweatman | 61. John Seward |
| 33. John Rose | 62. John Tibbals |
| 34. Benjamin Meeker | 63. Ephraim How |
| 35. David Clark | 64. Daniel Brown, Jun ^r . |
| 36. Charles Granger | 65. Joel Seward |
| 37. Ebenezer Seward | 66. Jeremiah Griswold |
| 38. Justus Rose | 67. Josiah Meeker |
| 39. Samuel Meeker | 68. John Howard, Jun ^r . |
| 40. Daniel Cooley | 69. David Hubbard |
| 41. Thomas Cooley (now dead) | 70. Elisha Rose |
| 42. Samuel Hubbard | 71. Zebediah Stiles |
| 43. Rubin Ely | 72. Noadiah Graves |
| 44. John Pebbles | 73. Samuel Wheelen |
| 45. Hugh Pebbles | 74. Thoman Merryfield |
| 46. Nathaniel Hubbard | 75. Ebenezer Barns |
| 47. Dan Robinson | 76. James Barlo, Jun ^r . |

N. B. There are besides, Resident in said Place, Elijah Edwards, and Joseph Sweatman, and Benajah Edwards.

And that they have built Seventy three Dwelling Houses, and much more than the Quantity of Land brought under Tillage than required in the Tenour of said Grant and said Inhabitants are embodied in a Church State, have regularly chose and ordained the Rev^d Moses Tuttle to be their Pastor now about three Years, and that there was built a Meeting House which was by the Providence of God consumed by Fire, but there is now another commodious House a building for the Publick Worship of God which is enclosed so as the Inhabitants have mett in the same on Lords Days; all which has been effected at the Charge of the Owners of said Land

in compliance with the Conditions of said Grant.
Bedford December 20, 1750.

Daniel Brown	}	Committee.
Ebenezer Seward		
Phinehas Pratt		

Hampshire, ss. Westfield, February 26, 1750/1.

Then Personally appeared Daniel Brown, Ebenezer Seward and Phineas Prat, the above Committee of Bedford and made oath to the truth of the foregoing List according to their best information and knowledge,

Before me, David Mosely, Justice apeace.

The within List of the Settlement of Bedford herewith presented to this Honourable Court was taken by our Direction and said Comm^{ttee} of the Inhabitants have been settled there for many Years and are well Knowing of the Truth thereof and they were desired to be very exact and particular in their Account and return to the same to us in compliance with the Orders of this Honourable Court.*

Boston March 22, 1750/1.

Samuel Welles	}	Committee of the Proprietors
Jonas Clarke		
Belcher Noyes		

Thus, although the way had been long and beset with many difficulties, the goal had been reached, even if it was achieved nine years later than the original requirement. Their report had been accepted, apparently without criticism, and the infant settlement was in a fair way to grow.

So much for the proprietors.

* Massachusetts Archives, Town Series, Records of the Governor and Council, Volume 115, pages 756-758.

The Inhabitants

WHILE the proprietors had been having their difficulties, the inhabitants had been having their own troubles. County and Provincial taxes had to be assessed and collected from the owners of the land set aside as "Settling Lots" and officers to do that had to be chosen. In some way the authority granted to the settlers in 1745 had been allowed to lapse and now they were required to pay taxes and had no officers to perform the duty of assessment and collection.

As was quite natural, the inhabitants followed the example of the proprietors. They went to the legislature and quite as naturally the powers they asked for were granted. Their petition filed in the General Court November 1749 is particularly interesting from the fact that it bears the original signatures of twenty-nine of the original settlers of Bedford. This petition is as follows:

To the Hon^{ble} Spencer Phips, Esq., Commander in Chief of his Maj^s Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England, The Hon^{ble} his Maj^s Council & house of Representatives in General Court assembled Nov^r 1749,

The petition of the Inhabitants of Bedford so-called in the County of Hampshire, Humbly Sheweth:

That the General Court in their great goodness was pleased to enable the Inhabitants of s^d Township some years past, to Raise Taxes to Defray the Charges arising in s^d Place, s^d Taxes was to be raised on one fifth part of the Lands in s^d Township and their power thereby was limited to three years which time is expired and your Petitioners find it absolutely necessary that s^d Power be Continued.

We therefore humbly move Y^r Hon^r & the Hon^{ble} Court that the s^d Power of Raising Taxes may be renewed & Continued for such term of Time as in y^r Wisdom & Goodness you shall see meet and as in Duty Bound Shall ever Pray.*

Daniel Rose
Jeremiah Griswold
Samuel Coe
Abel Coe

Timothy Robinson
Thomas Brown
Jacob Brown
Samuel Whealon

* Massachusetts Archives, Town Series, Records of the Governor and Council, Volume 115, page 530.

Nathaniel Hubbard
 John Griswold
 Justus Rose
 Jonathan Rose
 James Barlo
 Daniel Brown
 Ephraim Munson
 Ebenezer Seward
 Phinehas Prat
 David Rose

Daniel Edwards
 Thomas Bancroft
 Stephen Hickox
 Samuel Bancroft
 Thomas Bancroft
 John Rose
 Samuel Church
 Joseph Barber
 Dan Robinson
 Nathaniel Bancroft
 John Seward

In the House of Rep^s Dec. 18, 1749.

Read and Inasmuch as the Power granted by this Court January 24th, 1745, to the said Inhabitants to raise Taxes, Choose officers &c for assessing and Collecting the necessary public Charges arising in said Township ended in January last, Therefore ordered that the same power with respect to the same lands be revived and from the time it ended be further continued for the space of three years.

And that Mr. Daniel Brown a principal Inhabitant there be empowered to call the first meeting.*

The Council concurred in the order and the Governor consented.

It will be recalled that mention was made above (page 24) of there coming to light a manuscript copy of the survey of Bedford dated November 12, 1738. Granville's good fortune in having this ancient survey is due to an act of the General Court and the excellent judgment of James Cooley, Esq., its Town Clerk when said act became effective.

This act was passed May 15, 1851, and it required all town clerks, and others having the custody of public records, to make copies of such of their records as were in a badly worn condition or were likely to become illegible or lost to posterity.

At that time, in 1851, Granville possessed part of its original first record book, wherein had been written the record of its meetings and votes from the date of its very first meeting, to and including that important one of October 26, 1753, when Phineas Pratt was directed to cause Bedford to be incorporated by the General Court. This book was then considerably more than one hundred years old, and as may easily be believed, it was getting worn and

* Massachusetts Archives, Town Series, Records of the Governor and Council, Volume 115, page 531.

tender. In fact it was in bad condition and Mr. Cooley considered that it came within the terms of the act and that it ought to be copied, so he proceeded to copy it. This is what he says about it. "The following Records are taken from the most ancient Record Book now extant in Granville—Beginning at Page 11—*all the preceding pages being gone.*" Then follow the minutes of the meetings of the inhabitants beginning with the vote No. 5 passed at the last meeting in 1750. The record shows that all the meetings were presided over by a Moderator, but the meetings held prior to June 21, 1751, seem to have been held without a clerk. Just who was responsible for writing up the minutes of these meetings does not appear because they are not signed by any one. It must be borne in mind that this is a record of meetings of the *inhabitants* of Bedford, and not meetings of the proprietors, very few, if any, of whom lived in Bedford. Meetings of the Proprietors were held when and where it was convenient for them, chiefly in Boston, and without any regard to the inhabitants, and vice versa. Belcher Noyes, of Boston, was the Clerk of the proprietors and Ephraim Munson, after August 5, 1751, seems to have been the "Clerk of the Society," as he subscribes himself.

So we are able to know definitely something of the life being lived on the Granville hills near two centuries ago. The principal subjects appearing in the minutes of those meetings have to do with taxes or the church, both of which were inextricably mixed with the political life of the times. For example: the remaining record of that last meeting in the year 1750 shows seven votes; four of which are concerned solely with the church affairs, two related to taxation and highways, and one created a committee to attend to a particular matter. Of the votes affecting the church: one chose a committee to "state" the Rev. Mr. Tuttle's salary for the current year; one elected Nathan Barlow "to tune the Psalm" for the present year; one chose a committee "to fence that half acre of land granted by the Rev. Mr. Tuttle to the Inhabitants of Bedford for the place for the meeting house"; and one chose a committee "to underpin the meeting house." As to the two votes relating to taxation and highways, one divided the settled area into three highway districts, each to be in charge of one person, and the other vote was "That

the inhabitants will be at cost of laying out the roads in said Bedford." In as much as part of the record of this meeting is lost, it is quite impossible to learn just how this "cost of laying out the roads" was to be met, whether by contributed labor or by cash. But, be that as it may, there was another meeting of the Inhabitants on April 15, 1751, at the home of Lieut. Daniel Brown, which gives us more information.

It will be borne in mind that up to this time no powers to conduct the public business of Bedford had been given to the group of pioneers settling in that area. To be sure, the proprietors had been authorized to do certain things, but not the inhabitants. From the minutes of this meeting of April 15, 1751, we find that these hardy settlers had a few ideas of their own as to how the public business should go on and had proceeded to put those ideas into execution. At that meeting Daniel Brown was chosen Moderator. It was then voted "That the account brought into s^d meeting by Samuel Church, Collector for the years 1748 and 1749, be exseptord." This account showed a balance in the Collector's hands amounting to £13 s15. Here we see a patent manifestation of the inborn spirit of self government, self reliance and independence which was to wax stronger and stronger, and finally flare out in resentment at injustice, and pass into open rebellion for the maintenance of what the American Colonists believed to be their rights.

There in the Granville hills was a little group of settlers, assembled from older settlements in widely scattered places, who had come there to live. When they needed money for public uses they called a meeting; levied a tax; chose a collector; he collected the tax and reported what he had done with the funds. It mattered not a bit to them that the Great and General Court had officially no knowledge of their existence. With the self reliance of hill dwellers, they were quite able to take care of themselves. The spirit of America was in the making.

Another interesting item from the record of that meeting concerns the compensation of that worthy tax collector, Samuel Church. This is the vote: "Voted that said collector for collecting two years Rates have £2, 0s, 0d." Surely, not a very paying job.

We get another glimpse of the early life from the last vote taken

at that meeting. The ever present subject of taxation had to be dealt with. A tax of one penny per acre was "assessed on all settling land in said Bedford for the supporting ministerial charges and necessary (expenses) . . . in the present year" and "also a tax of one penny per acre be assessed on all settlement land in said Bedford for the mending highways . . . in the present year."

From this vote it appears that one-half of the money raised by taxation was to be used for church purposes and the other half for the highways. In those days the church in a pioneer settlement was a real institution.

To get an idea as to how much money was available for such uses, the report of the committee chosen to audit the accounts of the Treasurers is enlightening. It is as follows:

Bedford, April 15, 1751.

The Committee chosen by the Inhabitants of said Bedford to make up accounts with the Treasurers, Mr. Daniel Brown and Mr. Phineas Pratt, and we find that Lieut. Daniel Brown hath paid £372, 1s, 5d, in money which s^d Brown had of the Proprietors and £316, 8s, 9d, Society money, and of the said Pratt for the years 1749, £222, 13s, 2d, which the said Pratt had of School money.

Just how much all this money would amount to in the cash of today will depend on the fluctuations of the rate of exchange between pounds and dollars, and the depreciated state of the currency. The report of the Committee mentions sums aggregating £911, 3s, 4d, which shows that they were not poverty stricken.

Up to this time Bedford had no official existence. Its inhabitants could go their own way according to their own devices and desires. They had no legal authority to conduct any of the functions of a civilized political community. The inhabitants had increased in numbers from the first pioneer cabins of a few families to a scattered settlement of over seventy families. Conditions were rapidly changing. Roads were now a necessity and the early trails, serving two or three families, kept in more or less repair by those who chanced to go over them, were not now sufficient to accommodate the increased travel incident to seventy families. Where there had previously been no public business, now there arose a demand for certain services of a public nature. The mutual agreement of a half dozen settlers that each one should do his share of keeping the roads in

passable condition was now no longer adequate. More taxes were needed for local purposes. The growth of the settlement rendered it necessary that some sort of legal status should be formed for the convenient and proper conduct of Bedford's political business. The settlement needed an official Treasurer, Assessors, Collector and Selectmen to see to the execution of the public duties. They had no authority to do all these things except in the intimate neighborly way heretofore prevailing.

This condition of things was annoying and some of the wiser men of the community decided that the cure for it was to get an act passed by the legislature incorporating them into a Town and giving them a regular Town government. There seems to have been no regular vote by the inhabitants to that end. At least no record of such a vote remains.

At any rate, vote or no vote, a certain Mr. Worthington (perhaps John, who then lived in Bedford) seems to have been engaged to present a petition to the General Court asking to have the locality known as Bedford incorporated as a Town. That something was officially and generally known about it appears from the signature at the end of the petition which was signed by Phineas Pratt "For himself and in Behalf of Daniel Brown and Eben^r Seward, *Committee chosen by s^d Inhabitants.*" No one can reasonably think that such a signature could have been submitted to the scrutiny of the General Court unless it meant what it says. The petition follows:

To the Hon^{ble} Spencer Phips, Esqr. Leiut. Governour & Commander in Chief in & over his Majesties Province of the Massachusetts Bay, in New England, The Hon^{ble} His Majesties Council and House of Representatives in General Court assembled at Boston on the 29th Day of May 1751,

The Petition of the Inhabitants of the Plantation of Bedford in the County of Hampshire and province aforesaid, Humbly sheweth:—

That your petitioners are in Number about Seventy Families & have settled a Gospel Minister among them and are under the Necessity of raising Taxes for the Support of the Ministry and other necessary Charges properly arising on said Inhabitants and are under very great Difficulties for want of proper Power by law to raise the same, your Petitioners therefore pray that they may be incorporated into a Town by some proper Name & that they may

be vested with the Common Priviledges of Towns & with Power & Authority whereby they may manage the affairs of said Plantation with greater Ease & Safety agreeable to the Laws of this Province.

And as in Duty bound shall ever pray.

Phinehas Pratt	{	For himself and in Behalf of Daniel Brown & Eben ^r Seward Committee chosen by s ^d Inhabitants*
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The petition was well received. A bill was duly drafted granting the prayer of the petitioners and incorporating Bedford as a town. This bill passed the House of Representatives and went to the Council for concurrence. The Council had the bill read in the usual routine twice and then refused to concur. The bill was dead. The time for Granville to be born had not yet arrived. This political disaster occurred on June 17, a day which a few years later was to become famous in American history.

But all was not lost. The legislature thought the inhabitants of Bedford were entitled to some sort of relief, but they could come in along with others, so a general law was passed affecting all Plantations alike. This law was passed three days after the Council refused to concur in making Bedford a town, see Volume III, Acts and Resolves of the Province of Massachusetts Bay, page 565, part of which is as follows:

Whereas there are sundry new plantations within this province by law enjoyned to pay province and county taxes, that are not impowered to choose the proper officers to assess, levy and collect the said taxes,

Be it enacted by the Lt. Governor, Council and House of Representatives:

Sec. 1. That the freeholders of every such new plantation be and are hereby impowered and *required* to assemble together on the first Monday of August next, at the usual places for holding their publick meetings, and, being so assembled, shall choose a moderator and clerk for said meeting which clerk shall be immediately sworn truly to enter and record all such votes as shall be passed at said meeting, by a justice of the peace, if any be present, otherwise by

* Massachusetts Archives, Town Series, Records of the Governor and Council, Volume 117, page 100.

the moderator of said meeting, and shall proceed to choose three assessors to make a valuation of estates as also a collector”

Sec. 2 of the act provided that the inhabitants of such plantations should thereafter meet annually at some convenient time in the month of March and choose a clerk, assessors and collector, and the assessors and collector were empowered to levy and collect taxes *in the same manner as towns*. The clerk was given authority to issue the warrant for the meeting to be held on the first Monday of August 1751, and also for the subsequent annual meetings.

It is of interest to note that these Provincial and County taxes could be paid in certain marketable commodities, as good codfish, good iron, good winter wheat, good winter rye, good Indian corn, good barley, good barrel pork, good barrel beef, long whalebone, good bees wax, good tallow, good pease, good wool, good sole leather, etc. When taxes were paid in commodities, the value of the merchandise was estimated at the current rates for such goods, and then sold by the Province or County. If the proceeds were less or more than the tax, then such loss or gain fell upon or was credited to the taxpayer on the following year's tax bill.

At last Bedford was out of its swaddling clothes. It was recognized as a political unit of the Province. That was something. To be sure, it had no geographical limits, but it had been given authority to elect certain officers and levy and collect its share of the Provincial and County taxes (great privilege!) “in the same manner as towns.” This tax to be provided for at that next meeting in August was for Bedford, £21, 7s.

Going again to the ancient record book, it appears that the next meeting of the Inhabitants of Bedford was held on August 5, 1751, “at the Meeting house in said Bedford, pursuant to a late act of the Gen^l Court.” They were following to the letter the schedule laid down in the act. Daniel Brown was chosen moderator, Ephraim Munson, Clerk, and the oath was administered to him by the moderator. Phineas Pratt, Samuel Bancroft and Stephen Hickox were elected Assessors, and the oath was administered by the Clerk. Benjamin Meeker was made the Collector, and the oath was administered to him by Timothy Dwight, Justice of the Peace. The minutes

of this meeting are the first ones to be signed by the Clerk of the meeting.

Thus a little more regularity and formality had been introduced into the simple and crude methods of the pioneer settlers. The record of this meeting contains two items, aside from the elections, which are noteworthy. One of these items speaks of the meeting being held in the *Meeting house*. Previously all the meetings of the inhabitants had been held at the home of some individual. This indicates that the second meeting house, the one erected by Rev. Moses Tuttle and his congregation, was so far completed that it could be used for town meeting purposes. The other item is the headline above the record of the votes. It is this: "First Town Meeting in Bedford after the Town was Incorporated." Exactly what the Clerk, Mr. Munson, meant by that is reasonably clear considering the facts above set forth and the further fact that at an adjourned meeting of the inhabitants held December 16, 1751, the following vote was passed: "Voted that Phineas Pratt should take care of paying Mr. Worthington for service done by him for the Society by entering a Petition into the General Court and the said Pratt to draw the money out of the Treasury."

It is submitted that Mr. Munson, the Clerk, had in some way heard from someone who tried to rush the news in accordance with modern methods, that the bill incorporating Bedford into a Town had passed the House of Representatives, which was quite correct, but he had *not* heard that it had not passed the Council, and therefore at once assumed that the town was actually incorporated, and he made his entry accordingly. It must be borne in mind that news travelled very slowly in those days, and also that erroneous information might pass along then as it sometimes does now. It was only about six weeks from the time when the House passed the incorporation bill to Mr. Munson's entry in his record book.

The record of the next meeting of the inhabitants, which was held December 2, 1751, contains two votes which are interesting. Phineas Pratt was the moderator. Most of the votes are more or less routine, except these: "Voted Ebenezer Seward, Samuel Bancroft and Dan Robinson to take care and see that Mr. Tuttle have sufficient Fire wood," and "Voted Samuel Bancroft, Stephen Hickox

and Timothy Robinson a Committee to sell the Lands of those that are delinquent in paying their Rates." The former of these votes shows how minute details of the religious life of the times were matters of political concern. The latter vote shows that some of the good land owners of the day were unmindful of paying their taxes, wherein they were little different from others of later generations. At best, the road of the Collector is thorny. For some reason not now apparent, the business before this meeting was not finished and so the meeting was adjourned to the 16th of December at the house of Lieut. Daniel Brown, at which time and place the remaining business was concluded.

What appears to be the first of the regular annual meetings was held in the meeting house on March 9, 1752. Politically everything seems to have been quiet. Phineas Pratt was Moderator, Ephraim Munson, Clerk, Samuel Church, Phineas Pratt and Stephen Hickox, Assessors, and John Spelman, Collector. But in spite of the apparent political calm, the inhabitants were still hampered about their public affairs through lack of authority from the Province. They were still obliged to get along in a sort of hand to mouth manner. So again early in 1752 they presented another petition to the General Court asking for an extension of their power to raise taxes for current expenses. This petition was presented in May, 1752, and was very similar to that of November, 1749, and bears the original signatures of twenty-seven of the inhabitants, fifteen of whom had signed the similar petition of 1749. Finally the matter came before the House of Representatives and was passed by that body on December 4, 1752. The Council concurred on the next day and the Governor's consent is endorsed thereon. They were not satisfied, but it was the best they could do.

There were no further meetings of the inhabitants until March 12, 1753, when they met at the meeting house and elected the same officers as the year before, except that Ephraim Munson was the collector instead of John Spelman. The minutes of this meeting indicate the foregoing elections as being made "pursuant to a late act of the Great and General Court for (to) enable the new Plantations to pay Province and County Taxes," in other words, by virtue of the Act of June 21, 1751. The record seems to indicate

that, having gotten the important business relating to the Province and County out of the way, they proceeded with another meeting on the same day and in the same place, which dealt with the affairs of the community. At this second meeting on March 12, 1753, Phineas Pratt was chosen Moderator, Ephraim Munson, Clerk, Sarg. Ebenezer Seward, Joseph Clark and Timothy Robinson, Assessors, Dan Robinson, Collector, Phineas Pratt, Treasurer, and John Spelman, Nathaniel Hubbard and Samuel Coe, a Committee to sell the land of delinquent tax payers. Then the meeting, for some unexplained reason, adjourned to the dwelling house of John Griswold where a dozen votes were passed relating to the ecclesiastical affairs of the community and one about clearing and fencing the "burying yard." The minutes of this adjourned meeting contain the first intimation that trouble with the Rev. Mr. Tuttle was brewing.

At a meeting of the inhabitants held July 30, 1753, at the meeting house, more votes appear about the affairs of the church and Mr. Tuttle. Still another meeting was held on August 27, 1753, and a tax of "two farthings on each acre of Settling Land in said Bedford, for the support of the Gospel," was laid. This tax was to be paid into the Treasury "by the 27th day of October next."

Then on October 26, 1753, was held what turned out to be the last political meeting of the inhabitants of Bedford. Several votes were passed relating to the controversy with Mr. Tuttle and the affairs of the church. Then came two votes of far reaching effect. The first was as follows: Voted "that they would proceed to an Incorporation as soon as may be." The second was: Voted "that Mr. Phineas Pratt should act in the behalf of the Society in entering a Petition into the General Court for an Incorporation of said Society, or any persons empowered by him."

The stage was now set for something to be done. Most people learn by their failures quite as thoroughly as by their successes, and Phineas Pratt was of that type. He had the example of one attempt to secure the incorporation of Bedford which had amounted to practically nothing. Now with him at the head of the present matter, it was a pretty safe forecast that he would accomplish what he set out to do or know the reason why. He had been exercising

more and more influence upon the affairs in Bedford from the time of his arrival in May 1741. Influential in the affairs of the church and in the political progress of the community, he was now entrusted with the task formerly given to Mr. Worthington, a task of infinite importance to the courageous little group of pioneers living on the Granville hills. He neither faltered nor failed. He did not "impower" anyone to act for him. He went himself and attended to the business in hand personally. He gave heed to the weaknesses of the Worthington petition of 1751, and his petition shows more skill in its draftsmanship and construction. It is short and to the point. The following is a copy:

To His Excellency William Sherley Esq., Capt. General and Commander in Chief in & over his Majestys province of the Massachusetts bay in N. England, The Hon^{ble} Majestys Council and House of Representatives in General Court assembled Dec^r 4th 1753,

The Petition of the Inhabitants of Bedford (so called) in the County of Hampshire, humbly Sheweth:—

That Whereas your Petitioners being about sixty familys Labour under Many difficulties for want of Town Priviledges,

They therefore humbly pray That yo^r Excellency & Hon^{rs} would in yo^r great Goodness incorporate them into a District with all Town priviledges except sending a Representative and at the same time to Continue their Power to Collect their outstanding Rates & yo^r petitioners as in duty Bound will pray.*

Phineas Pratt { In Behalf of
said Inhabitants

Whether Phineas Pratt stayed in Boston and looked after his petition himself, or whether he had some one else look after it for him, it unmistakably appears that it was not allowed to be overlooked and forgotten. Bedford had hitherto been a more or less indefinite area on the frontier at the edge of the wilderness. Now, however, Mr. Pratt saw to it that the bill for incorporating Bedford into a District contained a surveyor's description of the exact area to be included. This bill was promptly introduced into the House of Representatives and after much delay was passed by that body January 8, 1754. The Council passed it in concurrence the

* Massachusetts Archives, Town Series, Records of the Governor and Council, Volume 115, page 507.

next day, and later the Governor signed it, so that it finally became an enactment of the Provincial government January 25, 1754. The act is as follows:

An act for incorporating the plantation called Bedford, in the County of Hampshire, into a separate district by the name of Granville.

Whereas it is represented to this court that the inhabitants of said plantation labour under great difficulties and inconveniences, by reason of their not being invested with the privileges of a district; therefore

Be it enacted by the Governour, Council and House of Representatives,

Sec. 1. That the whole of the tract of land in the County of Hampshire called Bedford, bounding as follows, viz^t: beginning at a large heap of stones at the southeast corner of said tract, on the line of the colony of Connecticut, thence running no. 10 degrees east, 448 perch to a pine tree marked; thence north 17 degrees west, 90 perch; thence no. 160 perch; thence north 35 degrees east, 123 perch; thence north 24 degrees east, 210 perch to a heap of stones over Mun's Brook; thence north 4 degrees east, 200 perch to a heap of stones with a chestnut staddle marked; thence north 11 degrees west, 164 perch to a large heap of stones; thence north 200 perch to the northeast corner of said tract, being two small chestnut staddles, marked, with stones about them; from thence west 22 degrees north, 916 perch on Westfield line to the southeast corner of Blanford being a birch tree, marked, on the bank of a brook; thence on said Blanford line west 20 degrees no., 2240 perch to the southwest corner of said Blanford; thence the same course 660 perch to a hemlock tree, marked, with stones about it, on the west branch of Farmington River and is the northwest corner of said tract; from thence bounding on said west branch of Farmington river as the same runs, to a great hemlock tree at the colony line, being the southwest corner of said tract; from thence on the said colony line east 9 degrees south, 3220 perch to the first station; be and hereby is erected into a distinct and separate district by the name of Granville; that the inhabitants thereof be and hereby are invested with all the powers, privileges and immunities that towns in this province by law do or may enjoy; that of sending a representative to represent them at this court only excepted.

Provided,

Sec. 2. That nothing in this act shall be understood or so construed as in any manner to superceed or make void any order or orders of this court now in force respecting the method of making

assessments within said plantation; but that the same shall remain and be as effectual as if this act had not been made.

And be it further enacted,

Sec. 3. That John Worthington, Esq^r., be and hereby is empowered to issue his warrant to some principal inhabitant of the said plantation, requiring him in his majesties name to warn and notify the said inhabitants, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, that they meet together at such time and place, in said plantation, as by said warrant shall be appointed, to chuse such officers as may be necessary to manage the affairs of said district; and the said inhabitants being so met, shall be and hereby are empowered to chuse such officers accordingly.

Passed January 25; published January 26, 1754.

Chapter 21 of the acts passed at the session begun and held at Boston on the fourth day of December A.D. 1753.

Phineas Pratt could go home satisfied. Through him the inhabitants of Bedford had asked for what they wanted and had received what they asked for. At last a definite portion of His Majesty's Province of the Massachusetts Bay had emerged from the mists of antiquity and the delightful uncertainty of the "Plantation" stage, and Granville was on the map. Great had been the tribulation and severe had been the trials, which were by no means over, but it was worth it. The game had been worth the candle. Only one thing more was needed to complete Granville's right to its place in the sun. The consent of the King was necessary. It was over two years before this was obtained, but at a meeting of the King and his Council at Kensington, England, on July 7, 1756, the Colonial law incorporating Granville as a District was approved and ratified.*

The inhabitants of Granville might well have said to their neighbor, Phineas Pratt, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

* See Massachusetts Archives, Foreign Relations Series, Volume 21, page 522.

The District of Granville

BEDFORD had emerged from the test of incorporation with a new name. Although Atherton Mather had given the name Bedford to Toto's hunting ground as early as 1719, the Great and General Court knew nothing about it, so when portions of the Towns of Billerica and Concord asked to be incorporated as a new town by the name of Bedford in 1729, and their petition was granted, it became necessary to find a different name to use in connection with Phineas Pratt's petition. The name selected was Granville. At this late day, it does not appear why that name was taken nor from whose fertile mind the suggestion came. It seems, however, that very likely it was offered by some friend or admirer of the Earl of Granville who was then President of the King's Council. It is stated in Varney's revision of Nason's Gazetteer of Massachusetts that Granville was named after John Carteret, Earl of Granville (1690–1763), who was a son of George, Lord Carteret, and who was said to be the most brilliant scholar in England. He held many and various public offices and was Secretary of State in 1742–1744. He became Earl Granville upon the death of his mother who was Countess of Granville, and in 1749 was made a Knight of the Garter and President of the King's Council, which position he held until his death. Politically he was an opponent of Walpole. His arms are described as follows: Arms—Quarterly, I., Gules, 3 lions, 2 & 1, or; II., Gules, a chevron between 3 lions' paws erect & erased ermine; III., Ermine, a bull passant Gules, armed & crined, or; IV., Azure, frettee argent, a chief or. Supporters—Two dragons or, armed & langued gules.

Doyle's Official Baronage of England, Volume 2, page 66. Surely, a name of which the citizens of Granville may justly be proud.

Now that Granville had become a definite area, let us stop a moment and observe what sort of a locality it was. Its eastern end was about twelve miles west of the Connecticut River and on its southern boundary was the line between the Province of the Massachusetts Bay and the Colony of Connecticut. Granville, on the east,

began where the hills begin, Sodom Mountain like a rampart marking the eastern boundary, and extended westerly to the Farmington River. It is all hills, some having very steep sides and others more gentle in their ascent. The most conspicuous ones have names, the others have none. A few of the names which have come down to us, with their elevations as determined by the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, are the following: Sodom Mountain 1126 feet, on the very eastern edge of the District; South Mountain 1200 feet, near the southeast corner of the District; Bad Luck Mountain 1220 feet, standing just northerly from what is now Granville Center; Sweetman Mountain 1503 feet, so called after one of the first settlers whose land was in that part of the District; Cobble Mountain 1120 feet, of which much has been heard recently in connection with the dam between it and the hill to the north built by the City of Springfield for a water supply; Winchell Mountain 1362 feet, so named after an early settler, standing on the east side of Valley Brook in the south part of the District; Liberty Hill 1437 feet, so called because a liberty pole was erected there at the time of the Revolutionary War, on the other side of Valley Brook; Ore Hill 1300 feet, westerly and southwesterly from what is now the village of West Granville; Chestnut Hill 1380 feet, a little farther west; then Barnes Mountain 1580 feet; and farther north the broad plateau-like area known as Beech Hill 1500 feet, lying partly in Granville and partly in Blandford; Burt Hill 1567 feet in the central part of the west end of the District; and Noyes Mountain 1700 feet, in the northwest corner. These make up the list of the principal hills embraced in the then newly created District of Granville. From the top of Burt Hill one may look down into the valley of the Farmington River as into a vast chasm, the westerly side of the hill being very steep. The hills in the eastern part are much more conspicuous and seem to stand up higher than those in the western part, but the explanation of this is very simple. The general surface of the eastern part is much lower than is the surface of the western part. In passing from east to west in Granville, the general level of the land rises from about 600 feet elevation to something like 1200 feet in the former West Granville, now Tolland; the hills are crowded in so thickly in the western part that the valleys are smaller and shal-

lower, whereas in the eastern part the hills stand more removed from each other.

Where there are hills there are valleys, and so it is with Granville. It has as many valleys as hills. Some are narrow and deep, like the Great Valley, and some are broader and shallower. Every valley has its own stream, the size of which depends upon how large the area drained by it may be. There are no large streams in Granville. The larger brooks have recognized names, but many of the small brooks are just streams, and some of these do not flow all through the year, being dry during more or less of the summer season.

Again beginning at the east, the principal streams are: Dickinson Brook flowing easterly past the present village of Granville and northerly along the west foot of Sodom Mountain where it unites with Tillotson Brook near the eastern boundary of the District, to form Munn Brook; Seymour Brook watering the valley west of South Mountain and then uniting with Trumbull Brook, and other little streams, flows past the present drum shop and presently is called Dickinson Brook, above mentioned; Valley Brook flowing southerly through the Great Valley between Winchell Mountain and Liberty Hill empties into Hubbard River soon after passing into Connecticut; Pond Brook, the outlet of Parsons Pond near the center of the District, flows southerly passing near the present village of West Granville; Borden Brook, in the northern part of the District, flowing easterly and northerly from Barnes Mountain and Beech Hill, is the outlet of Black Pond; Hubbard River (or Brook) is the outlet of Noyes' Pond, and flows southerly from the region west of Chestnut Hill and ultimately unites with Pond Brook to form the East Branch of the Farmington River; and Slocum Brook, the outlet of Cranberry Pond in the southwest part of the District, flows southwesterly into the Farmington River. All these streams, except the last one, are on the easterly side of the watershed between Farmington River on the west and Little River on the east. Among the smaller brooks are Bancroft Brook flowing southerly from the Wildcat region into the north end of Westfield's Granville Reservoir; Ellis Brook and Potash Brook flowing into Valley Brook from its east and west sides respectively; and Goff

Brook emptying into Hubbard River easterly from Remington Hill.

Of ponds the District had five of sufficient size to be mentioned, all but one of which are in the northerly portion of the area: Noyes', Black and Parsons, the waters of which all flow easterly; Messenger Pond in the extreme northwest, near the crest of the ridge, discharges its waters westerly, cascading down the mountain into Farmington River; and Cranberry Pond, in the southwest part of the District, discharges its waters into Slocum Brook which flows southwesterly into Farmington River.

Granville was not only well watered, but also it was well wooded. In her forests were pine, hemlock, spruce, tamarack, beech, various species of maple, chestnut, several species of oak, sundry species of birch, elm, pepperidge, hop hornbeam, sassafras, tulip, alder, several species of wild cherry, ash, walnut, both bitter and sweet, basswood and sycamore, from all which came the best of materials for buildings, farm implements and domestic utensils.

The great need at first was to get rid of some of the forest so hay, grain, vegetables and fruits could be grown and cattle and horses fed. The soil was stony, but good for raising fruit and the necessary forage crops. Game was abundant in the woods and fish in the streams.

Through this little pioneer town ran three principal highways: one east and west from that part of Westfield, then known as Hooppole but now called Mundale, to East Granville, Middle Granville and West Granville; one north and south from Hartland Hollow to Loudon, now Otis; and one north and south from Salmon Brook, now Granby, to Glasgow, now Blandford. These with a few lesser roads were the routes of travel over these hills.

Such was the physical appearance of Granville in 1754, an area of about 42000 acres, with approximately seventy-five families for its total population, seventy-five families which had the vision of reasonable security and future competence, and the courage to go forward unafraid of what might be in store for them.

These settlers were typical New Englanders, hard working, thrifty and God fearing. Most of them had come from older communities and had acquired the ability to read and write. Not all were farmers, for among the first to come were a blacksmith and a

millwright, so that the smithy and the grist and saw mills on the streams ministered to the needs of the settlers from the earliest settlement. Doubtless there were log houses in Granville in the beginning and earliest days of its settlement, but by 1754 it seems reasonably certain that there was sufficient lumber made at the local mills, so that probably all buildings erected after that date, as well as for some years prior thereto, were of frame construction. It was an age of hand work and home manufacture. Seed was planted with a hoe or sowed by hand and harrowed in with a spike-toothed A-shaped harrow. Grain was reaped with a sickle, threshed with a flail, winnowed with a fanning mill turned by hand, and carried to mill on horseback. Flax was rotted in a bog and prepared for spinning with a beam and hetchel, and then spun into thread with the flax-wheel, of which every family had at least one, and woven into cloth on the loom in the attic. Wool from the sheep was carded with hand cards, spun into yarn on a spinning wheel and the yarn knit into stockings and mittens and woven into cloth for the clothing of the family. And the dye pot stood behind the stove in winter, after they had stoves. Calf skins and cow hides were tanned at the local tannery and the peripatetic shoemaker went around from house to house making shoes for all the members of the family. Barter was the common method of merchandising. A large part of the local taxes was worked out by labor on the highways. Much, and sometimes all, of the compensation of the minister and the doctor was in kind. The school teacher was an exception. His services were paid for in cash, although the wage was a mere pittance. Their religious tenets were as rock ribbed as the soil on which they dwelt. Stern and severe in the last degree, it was deemed a serious offense to remain away from church services, and repetition thereof was sure to bring on an accusation and hearing, for these sturdy hill dwellers subscribed completely to the Edwards brand of theology.

About 1750 settlers began to locate in the western part of Bedford. James Barlow is reputed to be the first of these, and in a few years it became customary to refer to the different portions of the District as East Granville, Middle Granville and West Granville, and quite as naturally, each section developed a sort of nucleus which grew into a village. There can be but little, if any, doubt that their

actual location was fixed by the factor of transportation. Each of the three villages was on the main east and west road, and each was at an important north and south road. At each of these cross roads an enterprising merchant set up a general store and soon a little cluster of houses arose which developed into the villages we now know in these localities.

Now that all political restrictions, except one, had been removed, these hardy settlers proceeded to enter upon their enlarged freedom with a just gratification. One of the first things to be done was to call the first meeting of the inhabitants of the District in accordance with the terms of the act of incorporation. We may easily visualize a little group of these men, including Phineas Pratt, David Worthington, Col. Timothy Robinson, John Rose, Ephraim Munson, and a few others, gathered at some convenient house in Middle Granville, perhaps Lieut. Brown's, to discuss the important affair; the time when this first meeting should be held; the list of offices to be filled; and who would fill them best. There may have been more than one such conference. But, be that as it may, the winter had advanced to some time in February, or later, and we know what February and March can be in the hills. Finally they decided on March 28th as the day when this long awaited event should occur. The contents of the warrant for that first meeting had been determined and John Worthington, having written the separate items down, one by one, signed his name at the bottom and surveyed the document with satisfaction. He handed it to the "principal citizen" of his choice, who forthwith posted it in the place, or places, already decided upon. There was little need for advertisement, for the news of such an important event can only be compared to the expected arrival of the first railroad train over a newly completed stretch of track. Everybody spread the news. From one neighbor to another the glad tidings went until even the remotest settler knew it.

Finally the great day came. The snow was mostly gone. But there was mud, plenty and to spare. However, such travelling was not so much of a difficulty then, for no one had a buggy. Few had farm wagons. But on foot or on horseback they came to the meeting house by the Great Rock and made a day of it. The following is a

list of the offices and the names of those elected at the first Town meeting March 28, 1754:

Moderator, Phineas Pratt
Selectmen, Phineas Pratt, Samuel Bancroft, David Rose
Constable, Nathaniel Gillet
Town Clerk, Jonathan Church
Treasurer, James Barlo

The meeting then adjourned to the following Monday, April 1st, at which time Nathaniel Gillet was excused from acting as Constable and Thomas Gillet elected in his place. Jonathan Church was also excused as Town Clerk and Joseph Clark was elected. James Barlo was also excused as Treasurer and John Spelman elected. Then the remainder of the roster was as follows:

Highway Surveyors, Timothy Robinson, John Rose,
Nathaniel Bancroft
Tithingmen, Nathan Barlo, David Rose
Fence Viewers, John Tibels, Ephraim Munson
Hog constables, Timothy Robinson, Phineas Pratt
Sealer of weights and measures, Joseph Clark
Sealer of leather, Ebenezer Seward
"Sesers" the Selectmen

Choosing the Selectmen to act as assessors was merely following the former usage when the legally chosen assessors performed the duties of Selectmen. But this was changed the next year when one assessor was chosen, and not until 1769 were assessors regularly chosen as a part of the District officers.

Some of the officers appearing in the early records were peculiar to the times. For example, the Deer Reeve. Nothing appears as to what his duties were, but it is submitted that his position was comparable to the present day game warden. At least the election of such an officer shows that deer were plenty in those days and it was deemed necessary to have some one to look after them. Perhaps the presence of numerous deer accounts for the frequent appearance of wolves. That wolves added to the other tribulations of the farmers and were too plenty for comfort, appears from the offering of a substantial bounty. At a District meeting March 6, 1767, it was voted: "That Each and Every Person or Persons for Each and Every Grone Wolf by him or them Killed since the eighteenth Day

of August, 1766, and that shall or may be Killed before the Eighteenth of August, 1767, shall be Paid out of the Public Treasure of the Town two Pounds and for every Wolfs whelp Killed as before said one Pound for every whelp."

Tithingmen are ordinarily thought of as officers of the church, but it must be remembered that the church was a town institution in those days.

A few years later (1764) we find among the District officers a "Surveyor of clap boards, shingles, hoops and staves," which would indicate that the settlers were turning the forests to account, and that the manufacture of these commodities had reached a considerable volume.

Settlers who were vainly wished for a quarter of a century before, were now coming in steadily. One by the name of Hubbard, a millwright, had settled on the stream which bears his name, where he erected and operated a grist mill and a saw mill. So far as appears, these mills were the first to be erected on that stream. Exactly when they were built cannot now be determined, but it was before 1759, for on March 26 of that year the District voted "To build a bridge over Hubbards River in the rear of his grist and saw mill."

As the number of settlers increased in the western part of the District, there grew up the desire to have the District divided, and at the annual meeting in 1760 the matter came to a vote. The separationists were defeated. The subject then slumbered along for several years, but again came to a vote in 1766, when it was voted that the District "was willing the west part of the District as far east as Ore Hill Brook be set off." However, it does not appear that any committee was chosen to set off that part of the District, or if such a committee was chosen, it appears that nothing was done to that end, for in 1774 it was voted "to have a different committee to divide the District." Again, however, the names of such committee have escaped from the record. It may well be that this slight oversight was due to the great interest of these hill men in the strained and straining relations between the Colonies and the Mother Country.

The arrival of General Gage in Boston early in 1774 as Governor and Commander in Chief, with the avowed purpose of curbing the

rebellious spirit of the inhabitants, only stirred up resentment throughout the Colony, and when he ordered the removal of the General Court from Boston to Salem, he raised a storm of non-cooperation. Then later, on June 7, 1774, when he decreed that after August 1, 1774, "No Town Meeting shall be called by the Select Men, or at the Request of any Number of Freeholders, without the leave of the Governor in Writing, first had and obtained, except the Annual Meeting in the Month of March, for the Choice of Select Men, Constables and other Officers . . ." he roused the spirit of independence to the point of resistance. Did Granville observe and obey this ruling? The people of Granville paid no more attention to it than did the birds in the trees. Special town meetings were held in Granville on November 14, 1774, January 30, March 20, May 24, 1775, and April 16, 1776, without any permission from His Excellency, the Governor. The arbitrary and dictatorial attitude of the Governor inflamed the people of Granville no less than those living in Boston or Virginia. It was the chief topic of conversation. At the plow, at the mill, at the cobbler's bench, at the village store, at the tavern, the question of rights and wrongs was discussed pro and con. But the hard working farmers on the Granville hills were not to be stampeded by any flying rumors or unauthentic reports. They proposed to find out about this business and get to the bottom of it, and in the mean time they proceeded to get ready for eventualities, among other things, keeping their powder dry.

As the first step, a District meeting was called to determine what was advisable to be done, in view of the situation. This was held July 11, 1774, and at that time it was voted "that a Committee be chosen to inspect the debate between the Colonies and Great Britain." Very diplomatic language that: "to inspect the debate." Verily, the velvet glove on the iron hand. The Committee as selected was composed of the following men:

Timothy Robinson
Luke Hitchcock
Samuel Bancroft

Oliver Phelps
Josiah Harvey
Nathan Barlo

John Hamilton

Let us pause and look at this committee and see what manner of

men had been selected to report on this serious matter. For it was a serious matter, and none knew it better than the members of this committee. It might in the end mean war, and in fact it did mean war, as we, their posterity, know.

Timothy Robinson was the District Clerk and had been such for eighteen years. He was also one of the Selectmen and had been for a year or two, as he continued to be for many years thereafter. Later he was one of the Town's representatives to the General Court. He was one of the few educated men at that time living in Granville.

Luke Hitchcock was one of the Selectmen and had held that office for fourteen years and continued to hold it until his death while returning from his term of enlistment in the Continental Army.

Samuel Bancroft was one of the Selectmen and had been such for several years, beginning with the first board in the District in 1754, and he continued to hold his office until he joined the Continental Army.

Oliver Phelps, who later was Town Clerk, first Selectman and Representative to the General Court, probably had the keenest intellect and greatest ability of any man who ever lived in Granville. He successfully completed the purchase of the greatest number of acres of land ever transferred at one time in this country when he and Nathaniel Gorham purchased the entire interest of Massachusetts in the so-called Genesee Country, about 6,000,000 acres.

Josiah Harvey was the physician residing in Granville. Later he was a member of the board of Selectmen and also Representative to the General Court. Another educated man.

Nathan Barlo had for several years been one of the Selectmen and later he, too, represented the Town in the General Court.

John Hamilton was later a Representative to the General Court.

Such then was the committee chosen to examine into the trouble with the Mother Country and make its report to the citizens of Granville, a committee the equal of any in the Province, a committee having intelligence and experience, whose report could be trusted and followed. Here is its report:

1. Resolved that King George III is our rightful sovereign and king and that we will at all times bear all allegiance due unto him.

2. That the inhabitants of his Majesty's Province, and the other Colonies in America, are justly entitled to all the rights, liberties and privileges that the inhabitants of Great Britain are entitled to, which rights, liberties and privileges are in a peculiar manner confirmed to the inhabitants of this Province by the charter, and that we would humbly request and confidently challenge these rights, liberties and privileges to us belonging as free and natural born English subjects.

3. That it is our opinion that the aforesaid acts of Parliament (Stamp Act) are calculated to perplex and enslave this, his Majesty's free and loyal province, and are destructive of our invaluable liberties and privileges; and have a manifest tendency to alienate the affections of his Majesty's faithful subjects, and are in the highest degree oppressive and unconstitutional.

4. That in order to obtain redress from the difficulties and calamities in which we are so deeply involved by the aforesaid acts of Parliament, it is our opinion that some uniform and constitutional resolves be agreed upon, for a universal rule to be observed throughout all the colonies, the construction of which we refer to the wisdom of the General American Congress, soon to meet. And we would humbly offer to their consideration, that it is our opinion that a suspension of all commerce with Great Britain, under proper regulations, and a convenient engagement of non-importation and non-consumption of their manufactures, to be solemnly subscribed by the people, will be the most likely means to produce the desired effect. And that such non-importation and non-consumption agreement is neither unwarrantable, hostile nor treacherous, or contrary to our allegiance due to our king; and that it is the indispensable duty of every person who would reserve to himself and posterity the inestimable blessing of liberty, by all constitutional ways and means in his power to endeavour to avert the much dreaded consequences of these arbitrary and oppressive acts.

5. That we greatly applaud the patriotic zeal of the merchants and other inhabitants of Boston, and especially the vigilance and assiduity of their committee of correspondence; and although we approve of the sentiment and spirit of their covenant presented to us to subscribe, yet we are of opinion that the same is rather premature and too precipitate, as it is a matter of the utmost importance to the British American colonies, and requires the most serious consideration, fearing it will breed discord among the inhabitants, and that a division of sentiment may be destructive of the good effect. We propose, therefore, and rather choose to defer the sub-

scription thereto, but wait the determination of the American Congress. And do, as christians, promise and pledge our faith, that whatever constitutional determination and resolves shall be agreed upon and published by them, as a general rule of observance by all the provinces, we shall subscribe to, and in all particulars abide by. A faithful adherence to this, we make no doubt, may be the happy means to reduce the ministry to a sense of their duty, and restore unto us our rights, and harmoniously unite us to our mother country, and be the lengthening out of the tranquility of the British Empire.

6. That we do abhor all unconstitutional riots and tumultuous assaults upon the person or estate of any one who is personally in the execution of his own lawful business, but will, to the utmost of our power, endeavour that peace and good order be maintained.

7. That there be a committee of correspondence to correspond with other committees in this and the neighboring colonies, and give due information of all infringements upon our rights and liberties.

8. That a letter of construction be written by the Committee of Correspondence, in behalf of this District, to the inhabitants of the town of Boston, to assure them of our firm attachment to the common cause, and promise faithful assistance in all constitutional ways to encourage to a firm and steadfast perseverance in all the ways of well doing.

This report was made at a District meeting held the first Monday in August, 1774, and was adopted as made and a copy was sent to the Committee of Correspondence in Boston.

The result of this report was another District meeting November 14th, at which it was decided that Granville could be of some assistance in the approaching conflict, and that they must have accurate, first hand information as to what was going on. A Provincial Congress was called to sit November 23rd at Cambridge, Boston at that time being uncomfortably warm for certain of the colonists. Delegates were sent from all parts of the Province to this meeting, and Granville promptly fell into line and chose one of its best citizens, Timothy Robinson, for that duty. And such was the stern temper of the citizens of Granville, that at the same meeting they thrashed the matter out, and in order to be ready for eventualities it was voted to "divide the residents into two companies of military at the Great Valley." If it was coming to a fight they proposed to be in a position to be ready for it.

Representing Granville, Mr. Robinson went to Cambridge and attended the session of the Provincial Congress. When he came home he reported the temper of the delegates and the probability of war. Every one was so wrought up over the situation that little thought was given to the ordinary routine of business. Preparedness was the chief topic of the day. They did more than talk about it. Another Congress of Delegates was called to assemble again at Cambridge on February 1, 1775. Again a District meeting and again Timothy Robinson was chosen to go. In addition to selecting him for this task, a committee was chosen "to advise the delegate from time to time, *also to supply the minute men with powder and lead* if called into action." Here indeed was action of the grimmest kind. Minute men. Powder and lead. Stern measures these. But Granville did not propose to do things by halves. Men they had. Men familiar with guns. Marksmen, who could hit a bumble bee on a thistle blossom. But they knew little of military terms and usages, so at the annual District meeting March 21, 1775, they voted, among other things, "to raise fifty pounds as bounty for minute men," also "to pay fifteen pounds to every minute man for six half days of training who should enlist in the army one year, and fifteen shillings to pay for an instructor." The men of Granville certainly meant business. They were getting ready. Such little matters as dividing the District into two, the idea of having another church society, whether or not the Rev. Jedediah Smith should be retained or dismissed, were of small consequence and if mentioned were given short shrift. Injustice, taxation, rights, training days, powder and lead, liberty, these were the things talked about in the home, in the fields, in the taverns, and the men of Granville were dividing into Tories and Patriots.

Then suddenly the spark, which was to explode all this tense emotion and involve the people of Granville in the long war for independence, fell when his Majesty's soldiers were fired upon by an overwrought citizenry on that fateful, and to some fatal, morning April 19, 1775, on the march from Boston to Concord to destroy the supplies gathered there by the provincials.

Just when the report of this "battle" reached Granville is not now certain, but it came, and it came soon, and the effect was elec-

trical. All farm work was held in abeyance. There was only one task to be done. That was to get the minute men started. It has been stated that they were on the road within twenty-four hours after the news of Concord and Lexington was received; but whether that is a fact or not, it is a fact that Capt. Lebbeus Ball got his company together with such equipment as was at hand and left Granville with his men on April 29, 1775, for Cambridge. The following list shows how much in earnest the people of Granville were. The list may not be complete, but it is the best obtainable.

<i>Captain</i>		
Lebbeus Ball		
<i>1st Lieut.</i>		
Lemuel Bancroft		
<i>2nd Lieut.</i>		
Jesse Munson		
<i>Sergeants</i>		
John Stiles		Joel Bancroft
Benjamin Stow		Elijah Stiles
<i>Corporals</i>		
Ebenezer Smith		John Cornwall
Jacob Bates		Jonathan Forbs
<i>Fifer</i>		
Merrick Hitchcock		
<i>Privates</i>		
John Bancroft		Lemuel Haynes
Abner Barlow		Reuben Hickcox
Ebenezer Barlow		George Hubbard
Linus Bates		Jesse Miller
Albert Black		Ephraim Munson
Richard Brown		Abner Rose
Amos Clark		Daniel Rose
Israel Coe		David Rose
Daniel Cooley		Elijah Rose
Ebenezer Curtiss		Gad Rose
Fenner Foster		Jonathan Rose
Peter Gibbons		Russell Rose
Ebenezer B. Gould		Eber Spelman
Asher Granger		John Wright
Seth Granger		Stephen Wright
Jeremiah Griswold		

Another Provincial Congress was called to meet at Watertown, Cambridge being too near Boston, on May 31, 1775, and again

Timothy Robinson was chosen to represent Granville, but this time Nathan Barlo was also chosen to be a delegate with him. These two worthy men forthwith went to Watertown and met with the other delegates. There was more talk of resistance. By this time Mr. Robinson was pretty well known to many of the delegates and his sound advice was much sought and needed. Inasmuch as Boston was no safe place for the Provincial Congress, which really was a sort of war council, to meet, it was deemed best to have the coming session of the Great and General Court also held outside of Boston. It was decided that it would be safe to hold it in Watertown, so this was done.

It must be borne in mind that Granville was not yet a town and had no right to send a representative to the Great and General Court, but the times were uncertain and full of peril, and Granville had no desire to be behind, so we cannot be surprised to find that at a meeting of the District held July 12, 1775, it was voted that "Samuel Bancroft be chosen as delegate to the Great and General Court at Watertown from July 19, 1775, to the last Wednesday in May next."

Thus Granville had three of her best and sturdiest citizens in the thick of the fray: Timothy Robinson, Nathan Barlo and Samuel Bancroft.

At this time there were in the Province of Massachusetts Bay quite a few Districts, as distinguished from Towns, no one of which had the right to be represented in the Great and General Court. Now the war clouds were looking very ominous, and with a stroke of the pen all these Districts were freed from their disability and by a general law made into full fledged Towns. Probably this was done in view of the threats of war. In any event Granville was not caught napping, for Samuel Bancroft was right on the spot when the good fortune fell. This act was passed by the Council and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, on August 23, 1775. The pertinent words of the act are as follows:

"And be it further enacted and declared . . . That every Corporate body in this Colony, which in the act for the incorporation thereof is said and declared to be made a District, and has, by such act, granted to it or is declared to be vested with the rights, privi-

leges or immunities of a Town, with the exception above mentioned of chusing and sending a representative to the Great and General Court or assembly shall henceforth be, and shall be holden, taken and intended to be, a town to all intents and purposes whatsoever.”*

At last, at a time when little heed was given to the fact, Granville had become a Town. It had outgrown its childhood and had become of age.

* Acts and Resolves of the Province of Massachusetts Bay passed 1775–1776, Chapter 3, Section 3 (Volume 5, page 420).

The Town of Granville to 1810

WHEN the vision of Phineas Pratt and his associates was realized and Granville had indeed become a Town, the even tenor of the life of its people was very much upset. Warlike preparations created a buzz comparable to the excitement around a nest of hornets which had been disturbed. They had one company of soldiers at the front and two more companies in training. They were laying up stores of powder and ball, guns and flints too, as fast as they could be obtained. Clothing had to be found, as well as shoes and other equipment. Every scrap of news about the condition of the Continental Army was told and retold. Every stage and courier from the east brought information of the doings of other towns as well as from the army. Excitement and emotion ran high. Every artisan was busy, every one had his hands more than full. There was no idleness in Granville in those days. Money also had to be raised and sent forward and in this our farmers did not fail.

At the Town meeting March 18, 1776, Nathan Barlo, Lieut. Lemuel Bancroft, Capt. Dan Robinson, David Parsons and Samuel Stedman were chosen as a Committee of Correspondence, Inspection and Safety. With this Committee to conduct their war affairs at home and Timothy Robinson to represent them in the Provincial Congress, the people of Granville were well taken care of. Nor was money squandered. Mr. Robinson was voted the sum of two pounds eight shillings as his proper compensation for eight days service in the Provincial Congress of April 1775.

Military training had gone on enthusiastically and Capt. William Cooley with a company of seventy-three had gone to the front in Col. John Moseley's 5th Massachusetts regiment. This regiment saw active service in the battle of White Plains, New York, in the fall of 1776, in the unsuccessful effort to keep Lord Cornwallis out of New York City.

The officers of this company were as follows :

Captain
William Cooley

1st Lieut.
 Edmund Barlow
2nd Lieut.
 Samuel Bancroft, Jr.
Sergeants
 Richard Dickinson Joel Strong
 Samuel Williams
Corporals
 John Cooley Thomas Gillet
 James Coe
 Fifer
 Timothy Spelman
 Drummer
 Samuel Stiles
 Clerk
 Joel Bancroft

The exigencies of the times required many Town meetings. Along with other troubles an epidemic of small pox broke out. Many are the headstones in the Granville cemeteries bearing the fearful words: "Died of small pox." Inoculation was a new and not entirely trustworthy remedy in those days, and when cases of this dreadful disease began to be numerous, there were those who desired to have their families vaccinated, hoping thereby to escape the scourge. There was much debate over it. Some said it ought to be done. Others said as stoutly, it should not be done. Still others said it must be tried lest all be swept away. The upshot of it all was that a Town meeting was called and held on January 21, 1777, and there it was thrashed out, and it was finally voted "that the Town is willing that the inoculation for Small Pox be set up here *under the supervision of a Committee.*" A group of *farmers* was to supervise and pass upon a strictly medical operation. Well, it was better than nothing. But it came to little, for four weeks later there was another Town meeting and it was then voted "that no person be inoculated (for small pox) in Granville for the present." It would seem that the farmers disapproved, and so they continued to die, until the epidemic passed. Fortunately the Granville hills had produced a hardy race.

Whenever extreme need presses, it seems to be a curious trait in the natures of many people to take advantage of such need, for

their own enrichment. Here were the pressing needs of war. Not only were men and money wanted, but requisitions were coming for horses, harnesses, cattle, cloth, leather and various other commodities. So, in order to stop what was feared might be an unreasonable rise in prices of all kinds of commodities, the Selectmen, Samuel Bancroft, Timothy Robinson and Luke Hitchcock, met with the Committee of Safety on February 24, 1777, and fixed the prices which it should be lawful to charge for all kinds of merchandise then on the market. They did not call it N.R.A. or any such thing. They just went ahead and did it as an emergency measure and when the war was over they were glad enough to forget it.

But in spite of this arbitrary price fixing, the people were actuated by a spirit of fairness, and when the town's men were required to leave their fields and crops to go to the "training day" drill, they readily agreed to pay them. At the annual Town meeting on March 17, 1777, it was voted "to allow twenty shillings to Lt. Robert Hamilton and each man that engaged in the Continental Army at or near the time when three companies met on the west side of the Valley on July 1776." Granville was doing much for the cause of Liberty. It was giving generously of its men, its money, its labor, its intelligence.

In this year another company of men from Granville went to the Army, this time to assist in the capture of Burgoyne, who was marching from Ticonderoga to Albany to cut off New England from the rest of the Colonies. Through some unexpected delay, part of this company under Capt. Timothy Robinson did not reach Saratoga till after the surrender. This was the third company of soldiers Granville had put into the military service of the Colonies. John Tibbals was a Lieutenant in this company, and the following is quoted from an ancient paper: "He was present with his Company, or a portion of it at the surrender of Burgoyne. His father-in-law Pratt, whose residence or a part of it, stands between the Corners and the Center, held a commission as Magistrate under George III and suffered much in consequence of refusing to acknowledge the independence of the United States."

During these years there was, of course, the regular routine of town business to be done, with a new highway now and then to be

laid out and a few questions upon the church affairs, there being at this time no regularly settled minister in town. Also the ever recurring question of dividing the Town was bound to come up occasionally. This matter did arise at the annual meeting in 1778 and it was voted "to divide the Town into two towns, the line to be where the road crosses Ore Hill Brook" and the line was to be a north and south line. A committee was chosen to see to it but later the committee reported it could not agree. So again this pet project fell through.

The Great and General Court was finding itself full of business in these hectic times. Not only was it under the pressure of the throes of war, but it had its usual routine work to accomplish, and also it had spent a lot of time drafting a new constitution for the Commonwealth. When this was done, it had to be submitted to the various towns for their approval. When this question reached Granville, a special Town meeting was called and held on April 13, 1778. After some debate the proposed constitution was duly approved. This important question was passed with far less argument than occurred over permitting a new church to be created a few years before.

As the war progressed, many difficulties growing out of the conflict arose for attention. One, which always comes up during every war, is the care of the families of those who have gone away to battle. In Granville this matter began to press for attention, for many a family was left with only the mother and children to get on as best they might. If, among the children, there was a boy of ten or twelve years, they could manage pretty well. But not all families were so situated, for in some the children were all small, and as more men went to the army, there were more and more families to be looked after at home. On October 19, 1778, at a Town meeting it was voted "to support the families where the head is in the Continental Army" and also "to have a town store for them and a committee of two to purchase for said store." Thus those who had no man at home were cared for as a part of the expense of the war.

The next year it was necessary to raise more money to pay to their soldiers, so it was voted (May 17, 1779) "to raise £960 to

pay the nine months men for service in the Continental Army." And now it was found necessary to regulate the price of labor, transportation, etc. and a committee was chosen to do this.

As the war moved slowly but surely to its conclusion, the demand for men and supplies continued and no longer was there the enthusiasm to "go into the army" which was so noticeable when Granville dispatched Capt. Lebbeus Ball with his company of Minute Men on that April day in 1775. Some of those who had gone had been killed. Others had died of disease. Much of the hard earned money of the population had gone to support the army. But the people on the Granville hills never faltered. When a demand came, it was met, and the added burden was borne without question. Volunteers were induced to go to the front by offers of a bounty, small at first, but in greater amounts later. On June 19, 1780, the Town voted "to pay forty shillings to every soldier serving six months in the Continental Army." And again on July 6, of the same year, it was voted to give a bounty of "£6 or 20 bushels of wheat" to every man enlisting. At the same meeting it was voted "to get the horses required by the State for the Army." Unfortunately the vote does not state how many horses Granville was required to furnish, but the Selectmen were directed to get them and we know how much they cost, for on October 9th it was voted "to raise £1780 Continental Currency to pay for the horses required by the State." Even allowing for considerable depreciation, it was a goodly sum to be wrested from the none too generous soil and it meant many hours of arduous labor.

Soon along came a requisition for beef for the army, and on January 3, 1781, the Town voted to get it. There was no argument as to the amount or cost. They simply got it and drove it to the point where it was to be delivered. Oliver Spelman, Jacob Bates and Daniel Parsons were chosen for a committee to get the beef required by the State.

Then more men were needed. Even though Granville had sent men, and then more men, the State demanded still more from this hill town and we find that the inhabitants rose to the occasion in heroic style. At the annual Town meeting on March 19, 1781, it was voted "to raise £756 nine shillings and four pence *silver money*, as a bounty for 16 soldiers for three years." Clearly the people of

Granville were just as determined to see the war through to a finish as they had been at first. If it was necessary to give blood and treasure, then blood and treasure should be given in sufficient measure to accomplish the end. Nearly every able bodied man in town had served in the Continental Army.

The last urge to enlistment came on July 26, 1781, when the Town voted "to pay each three-months man *ten silver dollars*." The Continental Currency had by this time become so depreciated that silver seemed to be more substantial and attractive. Another point worth noting is that this is the first time when payment in *dollars* appears in the Granville records. Before the term of these three-months men expired, Cornwallis had surrendered and the need for additional men was over. But even so, in the meantime the army had to be clothed, and when a requisition of that character came along, the Town, at a meeting September 6, 1781, voted "to raise £70 for the shirts, shoes, blankets and stockings required by the State."

Not the least of the trouble occasioned by the war was the amount of the State tax which Granville had to pay every year, and the payment was not made any easier from year to year because of the uncontrolled inflation of the currency then taking place. In the year 1776 Granville's state tax was £369, plus a few shillings; in 1777 it was £1090, plus; in 1778 it was £3306, plus; in 1779 it was £9866, plus; in 1780 it was £21443, plus. Is it any wonder that the bounty offered by the Town in 1781 was "silver dollars"? A silver dollar was something tangible and had a certain value. Continental Currency, without any security to back it up, was something different. Only four towns in the County were assessed by the State for amounts larger than Granville. These were West Springfield, Springfield, Northampton and Westfield. And it should be borne in mind that at that time Hampshire County extended from Connecticut to Vermont and embraced all of the present Counties of Hampden, Hampshire and Franklin. So we can see that Granville was a town of some real importance, whether the tax assessed was on the basis of population or on the basis of wealth.

So, firm and steadfast, Granville remained in the conflict to the end, until the vision of Liberty as seen by her citizens a decade before had actually become a reality.

Few of the difficulties arising out of the aftermath of the war directly affected Granville, but on one occasion the Town had the opportunity to register its mind on a Federal question, and it did so in no uncertain terms. It had been proposed to give Congress the power to lay a direct tax to pay for the war, and when it came to a vote in Granville, as it did on September 29, 1783, the vote was unanimously against it.

Now that the war was over, Granville had a chance to settle down and attend to its home affairs. One of the first of these to demand consideration was the old one of having more than one church in town. In spite of the war, the number of farms had increased and more families were living in the western part of the town, so when the question came up, it was not to divide the town into two parishes, but into three. At the annual meeting March 22, 1784, a sufficient number of voters were present to carry through their wish and it was voted "to divide the Town of Granville into three separate Societies or Parishes," and further it was also voted "that there be a committee of nine men to run the Parish lines and make report to the Town." Accordingly the following were chosen to delineate the three Parishes:

Nathan Barlow	Lieut. Jacob Bates
Capt. Ezra Marvin	Capt. A. Coe
John Rose	John Cole
Col. Timothy Robinson	John Hamilton
Samuel Stedman	

This committee performed its duty and made its report, which was accepted on April 5, 1784. The report follows:

We, the subscribers, being a Committee chosen on the 15 day of March, instr. to run two dividing lines thro the Town of Granville in order to divide the town into three distinct Parishes or Districts, Beg leave to inform the said Town that in obedience to the trust reposed in us, We have duly attended to said business & make Report as follows (viz) first we give it as our opinion that the east line thro said town beginning at the Colony line so called, at the Brook which runs thro the Great Valley to run north by said Brook to the Valley Bridge so called, thence from said Bridge northwardly to the Bridge on the North road over said Brook, thence from said Bridge Northwardly to the North East Corner of John Hunt's Esq., farm; it being the Southeast Corner of John Web's land,

thence on said Web's line to the Town line with all the privileges belonging to sd Town lying on the East side of sd line (viz) Meeting House, Parsonage, land rents for the same and of all matters whatsoever.

We report and give it as our opinion that the West line begin at the Colony line in the Center between the Highways which leads from Col^o. Timothy Robinson's to Hartland Meeting House & that which leads from Moses Goff's to sd Hartland & to run a straight line to the middle of the Bridge over Hubbards river so called on the County road leading from Granville to Sandisfield & to run a direct line from thence to a center line between the two Roads (viz) the one leading from Samuel Halls to Loudon, the other leading from Timothy Robinson's to Thomas Moore's at Glasgow, or Blanford line.

We report and give it as our opinion that the said Parishes be distinguished by the names East, Middle & West Parishes of Granville.

(Then follow the nine signatures.)

In one very unusual respect the above report is of great interest. That part of it describing the line between the Middle Parish and the West Parish is the only official description of the boundary line between the present towns of Granville and Tolland.

When the proposed new constitution for the Commonwealth was ready to be considered for adoption, Oliver Phelps was chosen as Granville's delegate to that constitutional convention, and we may well believe that he performed his part creditably to his town, for he had previously had much to do with the public affairs of Granville and the Province, and more will be said of him later.

Another small pox scare agitated the town in the latter part of 1784, and again there was argument pro and con in relation to the subject of vaccination, and again skepticism of its efficacy was voiced at a special Town meeting January 20, 1785, when it was voted "that there should be no more inoculation for Small Pox." The people of Granville in those days were not afraid to say what they meant, and stand by it.

This same characteristic displayed itself the following year, when on October 5, 1786, the Town instructed its Representatives to the Great and General Court, who were Col. Timothy Robinson and William Cooley, "to use their influence to have a law passed to prevent settled Ministers of the Gospel having a seat in the Legis-

lature." Rather curious instructions to come from a Town which had so recently done so much and suffered so much for *liberty*. It would seem that there is a vast difference between tweedle dee and tweedle dum.

In 1759 a bridge had been built over Hubbard River near the Hubbard grist and saw mill. It had now become unsafe and really beyond the condition when it could properly be repaired. So, at a Town meeting on October 10, 1786, it was voted to rebuild it, a committee was elected to do so, and right here occurs something which gives us a flash of light on these good men, our forbears. Not only did they vote to rebuild the bridge, but they also voted "that said committee procure Rum *sufficient and necessary* for such hands as may work at said bridge in the Water, at the expense of the Town." Why not? It was customary to treat the minister to rum when he made pastoral calls.

The next year two significant items appear in the records, both of which, in varying form, continue to the present. One was fixing the price to be paid for labor on the Town work, and the first schedule (September 3, 1787) was as follows:

For a man two shillings six pence per day; For a team three shillings per day; For a Highway Surveyor three shillings per day. These shillings were of the value of one-sixth of a dollar.

The other was relating to paupers. It was about fifty years since the first settlement and the long, hard years of the Revolution had come and gone, with the result that some were unable, through physical or mental inefficiency, misfortune and lack of relatives or family, to care for themselves. Up to this time the Town had not been burdened with the poor. It is interesting to note how the situation was handled. The Town had no almshouse where these indigents could be taken and supported, and society had not progressed to the present state where the feelings of paupers must not be hurt, so the rough and ready method of setting them up at auction, to be struck off to the lowest bidder, was adopted. A rather unfeeling performance, to be sure, but one not without its merits. Here is a specimen of the entries relating to such matters, as made by the Town Clerks: "Voted that (here appears the name of the individual) be put up at vendue to the lowest bidder for her (or his)

support for one year, to be as well clothed at the years end as she (or he) is at this time. Lowest bidder \$22.00." This method was not the only one used, for in 1792 we find a vote passed at a special Town meeting "to give (three certain individuals, naming them) £20 if they will remove into New York State with all (their) family." In what way these poor creatures were undesirable does not appear, but they must have accepted the offer, for nothing more has been heard of them since that time. Whether this was an ethical way for the Town to do depends entirely upon the facts surrounding the situation.

Another curious policy of the Town appears in 1795. The town taxes were at times collected by the constables and in this year the offices of constable were put up at auction and struck off to the lowest bidder. In that year Aaron Coe bid the sum of fourteen shillings for the office, the sphere of his duties being the Middle and West Parishes. His bid was lowest and he was duly chosen. At the same meeting Richard Dickinson bid three shillings for the office and job of collecting the tax in the East Parish. He was elected.

The year 1796 witnessed much confusion in Granville over the currency used in every day transactions. Dollars and cents had been crowding pounds and shillings. In this year about as many entries in the records are in one type of currency as in the other, but after 1796 pounds and shillings were abandoned and do not appear later except in rare instances. Still it is pretty clear that for a time the people thought in terms of shillings for we find the rate of wages voted by the Town to be paid for labor very significant. From the annual Town meeting until September 1st the rate was as follows:

For a man 66.7 cents per day (this is four shillings) ; for a man and team \$1.233 per day (seven shillings and four pence) ; for a highway surveyor 75 cents per day (four shillings and six pence). From September 1st to the next annual meeting the rate was: for a man 50 cents per day (three shillings) ; for a man and team \$1.00 per day (six shillings) ; for highway surveyor 58.33 cents per day (three shillings and six pence).

There was still another curious custom which manifested itself about this time. The homes of the farmers had not been too close together and the tilled fields were fenced to keep out stray cattle

and horses, and to all appearances it had become customary to let such domestic animals run at large and go wherever their fancy took them. With the passage of time there had come to be those who did not, for various reasons, approve of this way of letting farm animals roam whither they willed, and at the annual Town Meeting in 1797, the matter came to a vote. It was then voted that horses should not be allowed to run at large thereafter. Two years later this was changed and the vote then was that horses should be allowed to run at large "being fettered." Three years after that the antis were in the majority and it was voted that horses should not be allowed to run at large "being fettered." So it stood until 1811 when it was voted that "all horses and cattle shall not be allowed to run at large without a driver," and that is the last appearance of votes on the subject of horses being at large. With hogs it was different. In 1797 it was voted that hogs might be allowed to run at large, and the swine, big and little, enjoyed this privilege until 1808 when it was voted they should not be allowed that liberty. Two years later, however, they regained their former freedom. This lasted until 1814 when again it was voted they must not be allowed at large, and there it rests. In several of the years between 1797 and 1814, swine were to be allowed at large if they were "ringed and yoked," but finally even those decorated in this fashion were excluded from the highways.

Even neat cattle came somewhat under the ban of public opinion, but their proscription was not absolute as the vote at the annual meeting April 4, 1814, shows. The record states that "all horned cattle shall not be in the highway at large without permission of the Selectmen." This seems to be the last vestige of liberty for domestic animals.

Every few years Granville was afflicted with the small pox, and the year 1797 was no exception. Some people had it and died, some had it and recovered. In some cases the Town was put to expense because of it, and difficulty being experienced in recovering such expense, it was voted at a Town meeting "that the Selectmen *compel* those that had the small pox in Granville to pay the expense of it agreeable to law." The sick must not only have the suffering but also the pleasure of paying for it.

There was another of those recurring questions which persisted, in one form or another, in coming up for attention and action. That was the matter of dividing the town into two towns. Heretofore there had been voting strength enough in the East and Middle Parishes to keep the situation in statu quo, but in 1797 the voters in the west had a different plan of attack. It was one which appealed to the men of Middle Granville so much that they were willing to unite with West Granville in putting it through. From the time when the second meeting house could be used for a meeting of the inhabitants, practically all the Town and church business was done in that building, which stood near the Great Rock east of the former Bechmann farmhouse. This made it quite a journey for many of the residents of Middle Granville, and a much longer one for all those who lived in the West Parish, to attend Town meetings. As more farms were developed in the West Parish, this matter of attending Town meetings became an ever increasing task. But the men of the west end were not numerous enough to carry any vote looking to dividing the Town into two Towns. At last some one brought forward the idea of having the Town meetings held in Middle Granville and West Granville as well as in the usual place in East Granville. This scheme caught the fancy of the Middle Granville men, so when it came up in 1797, the vote was easily carried that "hereafter Town meetings shall be held one third of the time in each Parish." Here was a victory for West Granville which was the entering wedge that was to divide the Town a few years later. It was the same old ghost in a different guise.

In 1803 the question of dividing the Town came up again. This time in a straightforward manner to divide the Town into three Towns. This would make each Parish a separate Town. It would not go. It was voted down with a bang. Nothing daunted, the proponents of the idea secured an adjournment of the meeting for ten days, until May 12th. This gave them a little breathing spell and an opportunity to rally their forces. On the 12th every one who could be present was there. This time the question was upon dividing the Town into two. Again those from West Granville met defeat. The men from East Granville were famous for sticking to their guns. However, the men of West Granville were equally persistent.

We can readily conceive of the talking, arguing, threatening, disgust, and perhaps a few (or a great many) oaths from some of the black sheep, about this real live question. Ridicule and insinuating innuendo also doubtless played their part. But the keener and more influential men of the Town could see the equity of such a demand and so they got together, talked it over and decided what they would be willing to concede. The next time the question came up it was not a surprise. Each side knew before the vote was taken what it would be. On May 7, 1810, it came to a vote. It was to the effect that Granville will not object to the West Parish being set off as a separate Town, provided they pay their share of the taxes already laid and pay for their share of the paupers. Also that the Town meetings should alternate between East Granville and Middle Granville. Further, the Representatives to the Great and General Court were urged to try to get such an act passed. So far as the Town was concerned, the battle was over, and the result seems to have been equitable. The Town's Representatives were Israel Parsons of East Granville and William Twining 2nd of West Granville. They accomplished the task set before them. They saw to it that a proper bill was prepared and introduced into the House of Representatives, which was passed by that body. It was then favorably acted on by the Council and approved by the Governor, and it became a law June 14, 1810. In this connection it is interesting to note the phraseology of the act. It is as follows:

Be it enacted, etc., That the West Parish in Granville, in the County of Hampshire, as known by its present bounds, be, and hereby is incorporated and established as a separate Town, by the name of Tolland, with all the privileges, etc., etc.*

There is nothing in the act to indicate the size, shape and boundaries. Little did Nathan Barlow and the other members of the committee chosen in 1784 to divide Granville into three Parishes, dream that their work fixing the line between the West and Middle Parishes would be accepted by the General Court, without question or investigation, as a clearly defined and well established line, but that is what happened. The boundary line between the West and Middle Parishes may be found herein on page 73. The act also

* Laws of Massachusetts 1809-1812, page 237.

provided that the West Parish should be required to pay its taxes already assessed and assume its share of the Town's poor. The matter of taxes seems to have been first adjusted, and then on April 1, 1811, the Town paupers were by mutual consent divided, so that Granville kept and cared for those who belonged in the East and Middle Parishes and those who belonged in the West Parish were taken by the new Town of Tolland. Thus disappeared the old bogie of dividing the Town.

Soon after 1800 a group of residents of the neighboring town of Granby, Connecticut, had organized themselves into a Land Company and gone to Ohio, which then was far into the wilderness, and, taking up land there had established a settlement, thus identifying themselves with the then "far west." Many of this group had relatives and friends living in Granville, and soon alluring tales came back from Ohio about the fertility of the soil and the ease with which it could be cultivated. The inevitable effect upon many in Granville was to get them interested and some became uneasy and contrasted the stony soil of the Granville hills with the reports from the new country. It was talked over and there arose the idea: why can't we do likewise? There seemed to be no reason why *not*. But some who were anxious to go, had learned caution. When that considerable group of pioneers had come from Durham, Connecticut, to Granville half a century before, a member of their number had come to Granville, like the two men sent out by Joshua, to spy out the land. So now, again this idea was put forward with the result that in 1803 Timothy Rose was chosen to go with Levi Butler and Job Case to Ohio, look over the land and the prospect of making a settlement, and report what they found.

In due season Mr. Rose returned. He was enthusiastic over the western territory. They had located a place near the center of Ohio where there was an abundance of wood, water and fertile land, right at the southern edge of the hills. He was so impressed with the opportunity that he proceeded to organize a company to go there and settle. All the details of migration could not be arranged quickly, but the business proceeded. Everything they did not care to take with them they disposed of. This took the better part of a year and a half. One of the things they did in the meantime was to become organized into a church on May 1, 1805, with all the usual

church officers. Dr. Cooley says there were twenty-four members in this church organization which was about to go to Ohio, but the scroll on the monument in the yard in front of the meeting house in Granville, Ohio, gives the names of twenty-eight persons as being the pioneer members of the church. The names are as follows:

Israel Wells	Sabra Rose
Chloe Wells	Zadoc Cooley
Joseph Linnell	Michal Cooley
Zeruah Linnell	Lemuel Rose
Timothy Rose	Achsah Rose
Lydia Rose	Samuel Everitt, Jr.
Roswell Graves	Silas Winchell
Hannah Graves	James Thrall
Job Case	Hannah Graves
Elizabeth Case	Sarah Graves
Samuel Thrall	Timothy Spelman
Triphosa Thrall	Abigail Sweatman
Levi Hayes	Samuel Everitt
Hiram Rose	Mindwell Everitt

In the latter part of September, 1805, they were assembled for the start of the long journey near the house where Dr. Clifford A. White formerly lived. After a prayer, they said farewell and were off under the leadership of Timothy Rose. They had their horses, cattle, sheep, farm tools, besides members of the families. They went quite directly to what is now known as the Old National Highway which runs from Cumberland, Maryland to St. Louis. This trail they followed as far as Zanesville, Ohio, where they branched off into the wilderness. Shortly they came to the site selected for their town, which they called Granville. They arrived one Saturday night, after forty-four days travel. The next morning they had a religious service under a spreading beech tree. The present Presbyterian meeting house stands near where this beech grew, and when the tree had to be taken down, a replica of its stump, in stone, was erected, upon which lies a scroll whereon are the names of these pioneer members from Granville, Massachusetts.

Granville, Ohio, is a large and flourishing town, the seat of Denison University. Nearly all these original settlers who were from Granville, Massachusetts, are buried in the Colonial Cemetery in Granville, Ohio, where many of the inscriptions on the headstones

include such phrases as "Born in Granville, Massachusetts" or "formerly of Granville, Massachusetts."

Having been so deeply immersed in the Revolution, Granville had become interested in the affairs of the Federal government. Her soldiers had travelled to many places in New England and New York. Their horizon had been greatly enlarged. They had found out that there were other places beside Granville. Transportation was better. Roads had taken the place of bridle paths. News travelled faster. More people could read and write. There were more newspapers coming into town and it is not to be wondered at that the affairs and doings in the Federal Capital took on a new significance.

One measure adopted by the Federal government which aroused Granville was the Embargo Act of President Jefferson. In fact the Town felt so keenly about it that at a Town meeting on September 12, 1808, a committee consisting of Francis Stebbins, John Phelps, Israel Parsons, James Cooley and Chauncey B. Fowler was chosen to address a petition to the President praying him to suspend the operation of that act. Such a petition was prepared by the committee and sent. It can be found in Volume 3 of Granville town votes, at page 160.

When the West Parish in Granville was incorporated as the Town of Tolland in 1810, the Town of Granville lost more than three-sevenths of its area, about 18000 acres, and approximately one-third of its population, about 800. The name West Granville was no longer to mean what it had meant. It was now shifted from the locality which had for fifty years been known by that name to what was to be the west village in the present Town of Granville which theretofore had been known as Middle Granville, thereby becoming a source of much confusion to superficial readers, students and others.

In 1810 Granville was about at the peak of its political importance. It had everything which any rural town had, and much more than most of them. It was practically self supporting. The principal items brought in from outside were silks, cottons, iron and steel. Almost everything else was produced on the spot. It was a region of industry, thrift and contentment, and life in Granville was no more rigorous than elsewhere in New England.

Granville from 1810

POLITICAL and economic conditions in the country were in such a disturbed state prior to the second war with Great Britain that there was wide divergence of opinion as to the necessity for the war. Not a few in Granville remembered the price of the War for Independence, and they dreaded another war. In fact they were so much opposed to it that they gave the Federal government in Washington to understand how they felt about the war in which the country was then engaged. On July 4, 1812, a petition was sent to Congress demanding that it "avert the Calamities of War and Restore the Nation to peace." This shows where Granville stood about the War of 1812 and in some measure, very probably, accounts for so few of its citizens taking part in that conflict. At the same Town meeting it was also voted "unanimously to Remonstrate to Congress against an alliance with France." It is quite clear that they had in mind Washington's advice about "entangling European alliances," and Granville was not afraid to express its ideas about it. This seems to have been Granville's day for objecting, and the meeting must have been the scene of no little speech making, and perhaps much argument, for not only did they notify Congress what they thought about two particular matters before the government, but they also took steps to determine what they would do about it. David Curtiss was chosen as "a Delegate to meet in County Convention at Northampton on the 14th of July, current, to take into consideration the alarming situation of our Country, and make such representations thereon as shall be thought proper." It is to be regretted that we have no means of knowing who attended that Town meeting and who made the speeches. The inhabitants of Granville were truly a hard hitting people.

The year 1812 brought not only war but also pestilence. There was in Granville an epidemic of that dread disease known at that time as "the spotted fever" and nearly every case was fatal. There were twenty-six deaths. The next year an epidemic of another disease then called "putrid fever" had a run. Deaths, twenty-three. The state of medical learning at that time was such that little could

be done for a person once he was a victim of either of these diseases.

Following the 1812 War, there came a period of hard times. It was a struggle for existence and Granville was as badly off as many other towns. The freezing year of 1816 added its hardship to the pinch of post-war conditions. In that year very little grain ripened. Frosts occurred in every month. It has been called the "summerless year." Pauperism increased. A curious instance of one of the ways in which the condition of the poor was considered is a vote of the Town May 6, 1816, when it was granted that "poor persons having only one cow and no pasture may pasture her on the common by getting permission of the Selectmen."

Two years later when the Commonwealth passed a law prohibiting the killing of certain game birds unless any Town at its regular annual meeting shall expressly suspend the operation of the law for a period not exceeding one year, what did Granville do? It suspended the law. We can well believe that many a family not only wanted but really needed this resource to eke out their limited food supply.

Another factor which plagued the farmers was the great multitude of crows which pulled up their corn and did damage in sundry other ways. How numerous these birds were may be indicated by an item which appeared in the *Connecticut Courant* of date April 19, 1815, to the effect that Augustus Pomeroy of Granville, Massachusetts, killed thirteen crows at one shot. Another instance of that unlucky number "thirteen"—unlucky for the crows. Of course this may be just a tall story, but it is in some degree supported by the action of the Town in sundry years soon thereafter in voting to pay a bounty for crows killed between the date of the annual meeting and, usually, the middle of the following June. In 1825 the bounty was ten cents per head. In some other years it was only five cents. So whether the item in the *Courant* was literally true or not, there was something to it. Where there is smoke there is likely to be some fire.

Another effort of the Town to check the advance of poverty was made at the Town meeting of April 3, 1820, when it was voted "to direct the Selectmen to post up all persons who spend their time and waste their property by intemperance." It would be extremely

interesting to know how this worked out and whether or not it was successful in a practical way. It was the first, and perhaps only, excursion of the Town into the field of sumptuary legislation. It may be that such a public expression of thrift caused the Selectmen to tighten the purse strings a few years later when Joel Root, Denison Parsons and Stephen Spelman were the Selectmen, but it appears that some one had a little of the milk of human kindness, because at Town meeting it was voted "to *direct* the Selectmen to furnish Thomas Burbank *a little* tobacco." This was on May 2, 1825. From this it would seem that tobacco was a luxury to those who were "on the Welfare."

Of course the poor are always with us, but now and then other matters came to the fore and had to be considered, some of necessity and some of expediency. In the former class was another state constitutional convention in 1820, which required Granville to send two delegates, and so Francis Stebbins, one of the Town's Representatives, and Amos Root were chosen to represent the Town. In the latter class was a better apportionment to the Town affairs. Heretofore the Selectmen had been the principal officers of the Town. They, with the Treasurer, had conducted all the principal affairs of the Town, notwithstanding the long list of town officers. Among other things, the Selectmen performed the duties of assessors until this procedure was changed at the annual Town meeting March 8, 1830, when it was voted to have a separate board of assessors. This policy has been followed ever since. That Town meeting must have been worth while to attend. They had so much to say that the business was not finished and the meeting adjourned to the 5th of April when the question of choosing the Town's representative to the General Court was considered. The final outcome of this matter was that it was voted "to choose the Representative alternately from the Middle Parish and the East Parish." This seems to have been a sort of political compromise to keep one section of the Town from monopolizing the honors. That great cleft in the hills known as the Great Valley very effectively divided the Town then as now into the East side and the West side.

It was about this time that the steam engine, invented years before, was applied to land transportation to such an extent and

had proved to be so practicable that the idea of railroads was catching the fancy of all far-sighted persons. The railroad from Boston to Lowell had been built and it was the talk about the Commonwealth that the state should help to build such roads and finance them with state funds. Granville was a hill town where in those days it was inconceivable that a railroad could be built. Granville's ideas on the subject were very clear and definite, as one might expect them to be. The men of this hill town had a hard enough time to get along and pay their own bills, and they did not take kindly to heavier taxes to finance railroads down in the east end of the Commonwealth, so at a Town meeting on May 4, 1829, it was voted to instruct the Town's Representatives "to vote against *any* law obligating the state to furnish *any* money for *any* railroad."

By the time for the annual Town meeting in 1836, however, they were very much inclined to change their tune, for at that time (March 21) they talked of railroads and even went so far as to select a committee of seven of their most influential citizens to "wait on a railroad Commissioner" to secure the surveying of a railroad through the Town. It made a vast difference whose ox was being gored. Of course much had been learned about railroads, and Granville did not lack those who could foresee some of the benefits of better transportation, and they tried to get a railroad even if the town was hilly. That they made some progress along this line is evidenced by the fact that in 1888 a survey *was* made for a railroad through the town. This seems to be the nearest Granville ever came to having a railroad.

Customs, manners, methods do change from time to time, even in the most rock-ribbed and serious minded communities. In Granville, from the earliest days it had been the custom to hold the Town meetings in the meeting house. This was a place to which great respect was due and it was customary to remove the hat when one entered that building, even in the coldest weather, although there was no stove or other means of heating it. There came a time, however, when some hairbrained iconoclast felt cold on his head and promptly, even if surreptitiously, put his hat on again. This brought remonstrance and mayhap rebuke. Whether hats might be worn in the meeting house was a very serious question, until it could

go unsettled no longer. At the annual Town meeting March 21, 1836, it was one of the first matters to come before the meeting. It was voted "that we have the privilege of wearing our hats for convenience in the house." Fearing this was too radical, they hastened to limit this privilege by voting "that no person shall be allowed to speak with his hat on his head." This was as much of a change in the conduct of Town meeting as they could stand for quite a while.

In 1837 when the United States divided up its surplus revenue among the States, Granville received its share and at a Town meeting May 22, it was voted to accept the offered cash and to loan the same to such citizens of the Town as might wish to borrow, in amounts not less than \$100.00 nor more than \$500.00 to one individual. This seemed to be a boon to both the Town and to the people. Noah Cooley, James Cooley and Joel Root were elected as Trustees of this Fund, to have its management and control. This was a very wise and proper arrangement, but it did not last long, for the very next year at the annual Town meeting these Trustees were discarded and it was voted that the Selectmen and the Town Treasurer should control the Fund and manage it. This scheme was continued for a time, but all trace of what eventually became of this fund has vanished.

In the Southeast Cemetery there stands a plain marble slab. The simple inscription on it states that Isaac Harden died June 4, 1841, aged 73 years. Some of the beautiful trees he had in mind shade his inconspicuous resting place. The name of Isaac Harden ought to be well known and highly thought of in Granville, but it is forgotten or unknown.

He was a man with a vision. A vision of a beautiful Granville with miles of attractive highways shaded by stately trees. A vision of a community abounding in public spirited citizens, a Town wherein was a great training school for farmers. A school where practical education would be within the reach of the most humble. He was willing to give everything he had to help bring his vision to reality.

He was a farmer. So far as the accumulation of wealth is concerned, he was a successful farmer. He was at home on the stony

hillsides. He had plowed them, harrowed them, planted them, hoed them, mowed them. He believed in them, and he wanted to help all those who wished to get their living from the soil to a better equipment for such an unending struggle. He had thought it over for years and, of course, talked it over. He was not willing to do it all. He insisted the Town should take some responsibility. He would do most of it, but not all.

In his will, made three months before his death, he provided that certain prizes should be given to the inhabitants of the Town for setting out hard maple trees beside the highways. These prizes were to be paid two years after the setting of the trees. The Selectmen were to be the judges of the various plantings. To the one setting out the largest number, not less than 100, the sum of fifteen dollars. To the one setting out the next largest number, not less than 60, the sum of ten dollars. To the one setting out the next largest number, not less than 30, the sum of five dollars. And if no one should set out any trees, then the Selectmen were to expend thirty dollars per year setting such trees. If this had been done from the time of the Harden bequest, what wonderful highways would now exist in Granville. This was a part of Mr. Harden's vision.

His will also provided that his wife should have the use of his estate during her life, and at her death, nearly all the rest and residue should go to the Town of Granville to establish an agricultural school, wherein should be taught "reading, writing, spelling, cyphering, grammar, and *every branch necessary*" for training in agriculture. Every scholar was to be required to work on the land four months in each year, under the proper supervision of the Directors. The Trustees of the school, not over three in number, were to be chosen from the inhabitants of Granville who were actual occupiers of land. These Trustees were to be chosen by the inhabitants of the Town and must be paid by the Town. This was the only part of the burden which must be borne by the people. They must pay the Trustees. He knew money would be necessary for starting such a project, so he provided that the income from his estate should accumulate until it was sufficient "to build a stone house on one of my farms" suitable for the purpose of the school, and thereafter the income was to be used for the benefit of the

school. The real estate he owned at his death was not to be sold, but if the Town should neglect or refuse to accept the gift, then the entire estate should go to his heirs.

This highly commendable effort of a public spirited citizen to give his home town a chance to rear a better grade of farmers was indeed an opportunity. An opportunity to be of service to our fundamental industry, to provide for a need later recognized when our State Agricultural Colleges were established, and to make Granville one of the most beautiful towns in all these United States. Isaac Harden was a man ahead of his generation.

It looked as if the vision would materialize. The Town at its annual meeting in March 1842 voted to accept the bequest. So far so good. The widow was still living, so there was not much more which could be done at that time. Mrs. Harden died January 24, 1852. Just what was done in the way of taking possession of the Harden estate is not very clear, for the next reference to it is in the minutes of the annual meeting in March 1853, when it was voted "to refer the setting out of maple trees to the Selectmen."

Upon the death of Mr. Harden, the inventory of his estate shows that he owned two farms in Granville, about twelve and one-half acres in Westfield, and a tavern stand in Westfield. These with the personal estate were valued at slightly less than \$7500.00. The personal estate, the land in Westfield and part of the land in Granville was sold to pay the expenses of settlement, the widow's allowance, the debts and a legacy of \$500.00. Thus there was left in 1854, when the estate was ready for settlement, the sum of \$3950.00.

It is unfortunate that the records are so meager that it is not possible to follow each successive step in this most interesting affair. It seems, however, to be quite definite that the estate came into the possession of the Town for two very substantial reasons. First, because the land at the northwest corner of the road to Southwick and the (old) road to Westfield, owned by Mr. Harden at the time of his death, is designated on the map of Hampden County published in 1857 by H. A. Haley, in Boston is noted as being then owned by the Town. Second, by sundry votes of the Town. At the annual Town meeting on March 7, 1859, a committee of three con-

sisting of Samuel Root, Dr. Vincent Holcomb and Rufus H. Barlow, was chosen to have the charge and management of the Harden Estate. The members of this committee are not designated in the vote as trustees, but they were charged with the administration of the Harden trust, so it seems as though they were de facto trustees in possession of the corpus of the trust under the will. So it matters little how they were designated. Nothing appears to indicate that their management was unskillful or improper. In fact, if anything, the contrary appears, for at the annual Town meeting on March 2, 1863, the voters undertook to compel the Committee, who in this vote were designated as "the Hardin Estate Trustees," to loan its funds to the Town. Whether this particular vote is an indication of the beginning of dissatisfaction or the culmination of much argument, is not at all clear. But it is plainly manifest that there was friction somewhere and the prospect of an agricultural school in Granville was not progressing favorably. It might be that the Trustees were coming to the opinion that the Harden bequest would prove to be a burden rather than a benefit, or it might be that the Harden heirs were pressing to secure the estate for themselves. Probably the latter. At any rate something was wrong. The machinery did not run smoothly, for at a special Town meeting April 25, 1863, Rufus H. Barlow was appointed "to compromise with the heirs of the Harden Estate."

It is not difficult to visualize the remainder of the episode. Communications, travel back and forth, haggling over terms, each party in interest trying to secure a little more for himself until finally agreement was reached. The matter was taken up in a special Town meeting August 12, 1864, when it was voted "to authorize R. H. Barlow to quit claim all rights in the Harden Estate and one of the heirs will pay the Town \$2000.00 above the income now on hand." Even after such an unequivocal vote the authority to conclude a settlement appears to have been insufficient. Another special Town meeting was necessary and this was held December 10, 1864, at which time it was voted "that the Town refuse to perform the conditions of the will of Isaac Harden" and R. H. Barlow was authorized as a committee to settle the affair. Everything was now set. The record was clear; the authority was sufficient; so it was

settled and Mr. Barlow made his report at the annual Town meeting in 1865 giving the details of the transaction. The report was accepted and he was paid fifty dollars for his services. Thus the hopeful vision of one more progressive citizen went glimmering into the realm of dreams. What might have been the opportunity for Granville to have the pioneer Agricultural College in the country, and be a leader in that field had, after twenty-four years of effort, fallen flat. The Town was more interested in \$2000.00 than in education. However, there still remains the row of noble maple trees set out in pursuance of the terms of Mr. Harden's will, on Maple Street and the Old Road to Westfield, along the former Harden farm. And further, the existence of these beautiful trees doubtless is the reason why the main street in the village of Granville is called Maple Street.

The collection of taxes is sometimes difficult, sometimes unpleasant and always arduous. And as the Town is divided into two nearly equal portions by the Great Valley, it occurred to someone that it would be fine, and much easier, to have two tax collectors instead of one, so in 1848 two were chosen, one to collect the taxes from persons living east of the Valley and the other to collect from those on the west. This method prevailed for many years, and the way the collectors were chosen must have been unique. It operated like this: the task of collecting the taxes in one Parish was put up at auction. The lowest bidder got the job. Then the collection in the other Parish was disposed of in like manner, and *after* the bids had been accepted and the auction was over, the *successful bidders were elected to office*. The charges for collection were usually more in the West Parish, but they varied from year to year. The peak seems to have been in 1859 when the charge in the East Parish was one and three-quarters per cent. of the amount collected, and in the West Parish it was two and one-eighth per cent. Finally, however, the Town returned to having one collector and the voters fixed the compensation.

In 1852 the Town made a progressive move when it voted to have the annual reports of the Selectmen and Treasurer, which had up to that time been given orally at the annual meeting, printed and as many copies procured as there were voters, and have them dis-

tributed. Later it was voted that these reports be distributed *before* Town meeting. Gradually the reports of other town officers were included until the annual town report has come to its present form.

In these days (1935) when so much is heard about the distressingly hard times, and it is said that there never has been such difficulty in procuring the bare necessities of life, and it seems to be a source of gratification to be supported by the public funds, rather than one of humiliation as it formerly was, it may be interesting to know that existence, even in Granville, has heretofore been equally, if not more, difficult. Fortunately man's memory is short, but once in a while an old letter or other old document turns up to give us courage. In the years just preceding the Civil War, men were hunting and begging for work. If one had a few extra clothes he was lucky. It was sometimes impossible to find a job where one could even work for his board. A sufficient commentary on the times is a letter written in Granville dated December 27, 1859, by Orestes Smith to his father wherein he comments at length on the difficulties of the people, and among other things, he says that he, like many others, was looking for work and had made up his mind he must go elsewhere to get a job. He says: "Edward Holcomb says he can hire any quantity of able bodied men, those that are willing to work, for their board." Mr. Holcomb had a shop a short distance below the present Noble & Cooley factory, where he employed several men.

So the beginning of the war was not wholly an unmitigated evil. It took care of the unemployment. From the very first of the war men from Granville volunteered, but it was not until the 27th Massachusetts Regiment was raised that the war made any serious inroad upon the manpower of the Town. That regiment took most of the young men available in this historic community. The war was barely six months old when at a special Town meeting November 5, 1861, it was voted to take steps to relieve the families of volunteers. Winter was approaching, and those who have lived in any hill town in New England know what that means. It is a pretty hard time of year to be left with children and cattle to be cared for, and the man off to the war. But no one grumbled. Those who remained helped the families of those who went. In July 1862, when from the standpoint of the Union the war was going badly,

Granville promptly voted to raise \$2000, each volunteer to be paid \$100 when he was mustered into the United States service. It takes courage and stamina to do that, and the hill dwellers of New England never lacked those qualities. The very next month the Town voted a bounty of \$150.00 for every nine months man and \$75.00 additional for two or three years men. A year later it was voted to pay a further bounty of \$125.00 to every volunteer for one year or more, and to abate all taxes of the three-years men. In addition to giving her men, Granville was giving her money. She was in the war to stay till the finish. All told, 110 men went from Granville and many never came back. The Town was fortunate her loss was not greater. Of the men from Granville who returned from the war, and those who went from other places, and came to Granville after the war to live, the last survivor was Edwin L. Hartley, Company A, 7th Connecticut, who died January 29, 1930.

Whether it was because all the straight-shooting men of the Town had gone to war, or for some other and more obscure reason, a considerable number of wildcats infested the Town in 1863 and did sufficient damage so that at a Town meeting January 6, 1864, it was voted to pay a bounty of five dollars for each one killed in town and proof thereof submitted to the town Treasurer. Like Ishmael, everybody's hand was against them, and whether they were exterminated or whether they just left for more safe surroundings, it matters little. At any rate they ceased to bother the farmers and at the annual meeting in 1870 the vote was repealed.

In the 110 years of Granville's existence as District and Town, it had never had a permanent business headquarters and there were those who thought something ought to be done about having one. Each town officer had conducted his part of the town business at his own residence and such books and papers as pertained to his particular office he kept there. This method had its drawbacks, for sometimes, through fire or carelessness, town documents and books were destroyed or lost; and what was equally annoying, when a different person was elected to an office, it was not always easy to secure the books and papers belonging to that office. This condition of affairs had existed for some years and as the town's business increased, had steadily grown worse, until at the end of the Civil

War the Town's records, correspondence and other papers were scattered over all parts of the Town. So, at the annual meeting in 1865 it was voted to provide a suitable place in which to keep the Town papers and books, and that all such be collected and kept there. All those persons having any Town books, etc. were required to turn them in. As a result of this vote the Town secured by purchase a plot of land two rods square with a small frame building on it situated on the north side of the road in East Granville. This was the first Town Building used as a headquarters for the transaction of the Town's business. It was obtained from T. M. Cooley and James P. Cooley by deed dated May 13, 1865, and recorded in Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Volume 234 at page 596. The land is described as being on "East Granville Hill" and was bounded south on the highway; east and north on land of Almeda Brown; and west on land of Hiram Vaille; "being the buildings & Lot formerly owned and occupied by the late James Cooley, Esq., as an office." The building here referred to was the one used by James Cooley as his law office. Mr. Cooley died in 1851.

This little building served the Town as a business office for the next five years. The convenience, however, which it proved to be, merely whetted the appetite of the "town fathers." Soon they had a chance to improve their situation and secure larger and more convenient quarters. Ralph S. Brown owned the Academy Building which stood on the south side of the road not very far from the little Town Building. Scholastic studies at the Academy had been given up, and Mr. Brown wanted to sell it. The Selectmen, like Barkis, were "willin'," and so the matter was brought up at the annual Town meeting in 1870 and it was voted "to purchase the Academy Building of R. S. Brown for \$400.00." This was done, and the little old Town Building and lot on the other side of the road were traded in at a value of \$50.00, as part of the price. The deed of the Academy Building and lot is dated April 19, 1870, and is recorded in Hampden Registry of deeds in Volume 276 at page 136. It describes the lot as being bounded north on the highway; east and south on land of E. L. Brown; and west on land of T. M. Cooley or E. L. Brown "with the building standing thereon known as the Academy Building." Here there was an abundance of office

room on the first floor, and the second floor could be, and was, used for holding Town meetings. For the first time in its existence, Granville could hold a Town meeting in its own building. Heretofore all Town meetings had been held in the meeting houses. At first all the Town meetings were held in East Granville, there being no other building in town large enough to accommodate all the voters who came to Town meeting. Then later some were held in East Granville, some in Middle Granville and some in West Granville. Then after the West Parish in Granville had become the Town of Tolland, the Town meetings were held part of the time in East Granville and some of the time in West Granville, but always in the meeting houses. About the time of the Civil War the center of population in the Town began to shift toward the east. One of the first tangible evidences of this shifting is a vote at the annual meeting in 1867 when a motion was made and carried that two-thirds of the Town meetings should be held in the East Parish and one-third in the West Parish. Now with a hall owned by the Town in the East Parish, it was likely that more rather than less meetings would be held in it. In fact it was voted at the annual meeting in 1875 to hold all future meetings in the Town Hall. It is said that the principal reason why it was voted to hold no more meetings in West Granville is that at the last one held there one of the matters voted upon was the election of a member of the School Committee and the candidate, who lived in West Granville, received seven votes more than there were voters present at the meeting. Apparently that sort of politics does not go in Granville, for no Town meetings have been held in West Granville since that time.

The next year after acquiring the Academy Building, the Center School District was facing the ever troublesome need of building a new school house, but its Committee avoided the difficulty by hiring the hall in the Town Building for a school room. This worked out to the satisfaction of both District and Town, and the arrangement was continued as long as the District system prevailed (January 1, 1883). Thereafter the Town continued to have a school in the Town Hall until it was decided to transport the pupils to Granville village.

The doctrines of Susan B. Anthony had been heard of and found

many adherents in New England. However, the political powers in Granville were not among them. When it was first mentioned, someone had the boldness to suggest that the Town go on record as favoring woman suffrage. Would Granville have it? Most certainly *not*. No such revolutionary idea originating outside of Granville could be received warmly. Not so the Commonwealth. Massachusetts was advancing slowly and carefully toward the now famous 19th Amendment. As early as 1882 a statute was in force whereby women were given the right to vote on all questions affecting the schools. Having this law in mind four courageous women, Mrs. Ralph S. Brown, Mrs. J. Murray Gibbons, Mrs. Silas Noble and Mrs. Edward Holcomb, appeared at the annual town meeting on March 20, 1882, and claimed their right to vote. The particular question which aroused their interest was whether or not the District system of schools should be retained. It is not known how these good ladies voted, but the District system was continued. It is believed these were the first women's votes cast in Granville on any measure of Town interest.

At best the path of any public officer is apt to be rough, and one of the easiest things to stumble over is, and always has been, the spending of public money. It is not difficult to spend freely the money of someone else, especially if there is apparent benefit to be secured by so doing. When a definite sum is appropriated for a specific department of public work, it is not always easy to keep within the appropriation and have one's constituents satisfied. If the money does not go as far as hoped or expected, then there is complaint. If the work is done but the appropriation is exceeded, then there is complaint. Sometimes, however, good comes out of evil and so it was with Granville in 1890. Some of the appropriations had been exceeded a little, others more, and there was some sharp and deserved criticism, but it all ended amicably by a vote requiring certain of the town officers to give bonds for the faithful performance of their duties. It would seem that this was an innovation at that time, but without doubt the town Treasurers had long since been accustomed to furnishing bonds. Later the Auditor of the Commonwealth gave instructions in such matters and also in the proper method of keeping accounts of public officers.

In 1892 the Town voted to publish the assessors' valuations of the taxable property in Town, and so a Valuation Book, as it was called, was printed and distributed to the voters. This practice has been followed, and such books have been issued at reasonable intervals.

In 1900, the Town, which had survived more than a century without one, deemed it a proper time to have a town seal, and a committee consisting of Joseph Welch, Elmer E. Smith and Lawrence F. Henry was chosen to have one made. So, step by step the affairs of the Town were being more regularly conducted in conformity with the requirements of the times.

When economic prosperity returned to the country at large in the last decade of the 19th century, among other things which were a step in advance of the old order, were the electric street railways which had revolutionized transportation in the cities and were reaching out to the smaller places as feeders to their systems. The Woronoco Street Railway Co. was operating an electric line in Westfield and it seemed to the people of Granville that now their opportunity had come to be connected with the main lines of transportation, just as in earlier years the good people of this historic old Town had been thrilled by the prospect of a steam railroad. Other small towns had been connected up and why should not Granville experience the same good fortune? It had much freight coming in and it was sending out thousands of drums and other products of the Noble and Cooley factory, as well as considerable quantities of fruits. So at the annual Town meeting in 1896 a committee of five was chosen to confer with the Woronoco Street Railway Co. about the feasibility and desirability of extending its line to Granville. This committee consisted of Ralph B. Cooley, Joseph Welch, Edgar B. Holcomb, Silas B. Root, and John M. Gibbons. The committee had many sessions with the Railway Company and worked hard on the matter, but it accomplished nothing permanent. Finally, however, after many years a bill came before the General Court authorizing an extension of the Springfield Street Railway to and through the Town of Granville, and giving the proposed layout. At the annual meeting in 1911 a committee of three, consisting of Joseph Welch, Silas B. Root and Hermann G. Patt, was

chosen to go to Boston when the bill came up for hearing and urge its passage, and at a special Town meeting six weeks later \$500.00 was appropriated "to protect and defend the interest of the Town in a trolley line from Springfield to Southwick and Granville." Meetings were held in Granville and West Granville to arouse support for the enterprise and some publicity work by way of articles in newspapers was done. The committee went to Boston and fought for the bill. All seemed to be going well, but Charles S. Mellen, who was then president of The New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad Company, broke into the affair. At that time Mr. Mellen had an idea of buying all the electric railroads in Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut, by securing control of the separate local Companies through a holding company owned by the "New Haven" railroad. Mr. Mellen was carrying things with a high hand and it was thought the committee representing the Town in the various hearings on the matter could be strengthened, so at another special meeting, the old committee was discharged and a new one of six was chosen, consisting of Joseph Welch, Hermann G. Patt, Orville R. Noble, Roswell O. Rowley, Fred N. Gibbons and Silas B. Root, "to take charge of the Town's interest in the trolley merger." Five hundred dollars was appropriated for expenses and the committee was authorized to employ legal counsel if it thought fit. The committee worked industriously and did all that it was possible to do, but it was of no avail. Mr. Mellen was accustomed to riding rough shod over any and all opposition in order to attain his ends and *no* committee from Granville, or even the whole Town, could have changed his course. He did not care anything about Granville or any one who lived there. His only desire was to stifle competition. So another cherished hope passed into the realm of dreams, but the solution of Granville's transportation problem was on the way. It came with the automobile.

Although Granville was doomed to disappointment in the matter of an electric railway to larger centers of population, the Town made some progress in the field of communication. Interest was aroused in having telephone connection with other places. A sufficient number of subscribers was secured and New England Telephone and Telegraph Company constructed its line from Westfield

to Granville in 1905. The central office in Granville was opened on December 24th of that year. The equipment necessary to serve the Granville area was located in the store at the Center and Henry D. Colton, the store-keeper, operated the switch board. The subscribers were 21 in number.

In the fall of 1906 the central station was removed to Granville and installed in the house then owned and occupied by Charles H. Tryon, and later by Dr. Harold T. Beattie. When Mr. Tryon sold his house, the central equipment was moved to the house where Mrs. Tryon recently lived, the first house southeast of the Gibbons store, this property having been purchased by Mr. Tryon. There the telephone headquarters remained and was operated until May, 1939, when the dial system was installed and the equipment necessary for the operation of that system was established in the small building erected that year by the Company on land purchased from Peter Hendricksen.

One of the serious things with which Granville has for many years had to contend is forest fires. In the early part of the year there is quite generally a period between the time when the snow goes off and the time when the foliage is nearly full grown, when the fallen leaves of the year before get very dry. So dry, in fact, that the small showers of April do not seem to make them perceptibly damp. In this period the trout fishing season opens and most of the brooks have six fishermen to one trout. Most of the fishermen are smokers and some are very careless about throwing down lighted matches and burning cigarette butts. This causes many fires and great loss. Sometimes such fires in Granville have burned a week. Both the Commonwealth and the Towns have taken such steps as seemed feasible to prevent forest fires.

Like all New England towns, Granville, until recently, had only primitive equipment with which to fight fires. In the early days, if a building caught fire, building and contents were destroyed, except such movable items as might be removed from the burning structure. If a forest fire started, all the men in that neighborhood turned out and with such tools as were at hand fought the fire until it was under control. Since 1907 the Town has had a Fire Warden with authority in the matter of fires. He is appointed annually by the

Selectmen. The Commonwealth has erected a large lookout tower on the top of Sweetman Mountain where it maintains a fire warden during certain months of the year. From time to time the Commonwealth has recommended to the towns various measures relating to fire protection. In 1912 Granville voted to buy the fire fighting apparatus suggested by the Commonwealth and appropriated \$260.00 to that end. Since that time Granville has had fewer forest fires and none of alarming extent.

Gradually, as fire fighting equipment became available, it was secured and some homes were equipped with portable fire extinguishers. Then the idea of Town equipment was entertained and steps were taken to accomplish that end. Water holes were made or enlarged at various strategic points about town, and finally in 1945 equipment consisting of an American La France fire pumper and a good supply of fire hose was purchased. A Volunteer Fire Department was organized with Arthur B. Case as Chief. Because of the contour of the town two divisions of the Department are maintained, one in the village of Granville and the other in West Granville, each having about twenty members.

In the earlier days when cattle, sheep and horses were allowed to graze in the highways and on the Green, one of the important offices in the Town was that of Field Driver. So much so that generally there were four or more elected at the annual town meeting each year, and sometimes the number chosen was as high as eight or even ten. Their duties were to drive such domestic animals as had strayed from the highway or the land of their owners, back into some place of detention and notify the owners to come and get their cattle and pay for the damage done and also the charge of the Field Driver. Ordinarily every Town had a Town Pound where all strays were kept till called for by their owners, but for some reason Granville never had a Pound. Perhaps it was because the residents could not agree as to where it should be located. In the old days it was a long distance from the west part of the Town to the east part, so perhaps it was merely a matter of convenience. The Town never had a pound keeper, for it had no pound, but the situation was very easily handled. It was usually voted that each Field Driver use his own farm yard as a pound and be his own pound-keeper.

This method seems to have been more sensible than to have one central pound.

When cattle were allowed to run at large it was customary for each farmer to have an individual ear mark, by which his cattle could be identified. A description of all such marks was required to be registered in the Town Clerk's office. Many such appear in the early records. Here are a few entries:

Justin Cooley's mark is a half crop the under side the left ear and a slit the upper side the right.

William Gavit's mark is a double fork in the left ear and a single fork in the right.

Caleb Burt's mark is a crop of the right ear and a hole threw the left.

Sharon Burbank's mark is a V the under side the right ear.

Dan Mather's mark is a sloping crop of the upper and under side of the left ear, being the same that was Josiah Whitney's.

Jairus Handy's mark is two half pennys the upper side of the right ear. Being the same that was Rich^d Brown's. Put to Rachel Coe.

John Manchester's mark is three half pennys the under side the left ear.

David Bates' mark is a slit in the end of the left ear.

Samuel Stradvian Junr's mark is a crop off the end of the right ear and swallows tail the under side the same.

Levi Spelman's mark is a square crop of the end of the right ear and a half crop the under side of the left ear.

Seth Coe's mark is a swallows tail in the end of the left ear.

Linus Bates' mark is a square half penny the under side of each ear.

John Hunt's mark is a slope the under side the left ear & upper side the right.

Amos Baldwin's mark is a hollow crop in the end of the left ear and a half penny the under side the right.

Formerly many cattle were kept in Granville but although the number of domestic animals kept in Town decreased in later years, the Field Drivers were scrupulously elected every year, because they always had been chosen each year. But after many years of practically no duties to perform, some progressive individual, perhaps some recently made female voter, suggested in 1915, that there was no need for such useless officials. Strangely enough, the idea was adopted, and since that time we have had no more Field

Drivers. Thus an old custom which had become a relic of the past was discarded.

In that same year, 1915, another event occurred which was of more immediate importance. The Town Hall was condemned as unsafe by the State Building Inspector. The Town was now face to face with a variation of the old school house dilemma. Either extensive repairs, akin to rebuilding, or build anew. Furthermore, where could town meetings be held during the period of making repairs on the old building, or building a new one? The meeting houses at Granville Center and West Granville, in both of which town meetings had many times been held in the past, were in excellent condition and both Parishes were loath to allow them to be used for that purpose now. The only building in Town which was at all suitable for the emergency was the Universalist meeting house in Granville village. This building had not been used by its owners for many years, and it was used only infrequently by the Methodist church, which soon ceased altogether to use it. Under the stress of these circumstances, the Town was greatly relieved by the generosity of the Universalist church coming to the rescue with an offer of the use of its meeting house until such time as the Town had proper accommodation for Town meetings. The offer was gratefully accepted and the annual meeting was held in that meeting house on February 7, 1916, at which time a committee was chosen to examine the situation and report as to whether it would be better to rebuild the old town hall or build a new one.

That the Town sometime would be faced with the necessity for a new town hall had been realized by the late Milton B. Whitney, Esq., of Westfield. Mr. Whitney was a native of Granville and had given generously toward the construction and endowment of the Library building, and being desirous of still further assisting his native Town, had made provision in his will for a fund of \$5000.00, the income of which should go to his sister, the late Mrs. James W. Johnson, during her life, and upon her death the fund should go to the Town for, or toward, a new town hall.

The fact of Mr. Whitney's gift doubtless had its weight with the above named committee, for after due consideration, it reported in favor of a new building.

Then began the usual argument, when a new public building has been decided upon, as to where it should be located. Petty rivalries flared up. Town meetings were held, for Granville could not even build a school house, not to mention a town hall, without several town meetings. At length Mrs. Lucy M. Brown, widow of the late Ralph S. Brown, offered to give the Town a site with sufficient land, if the Town would build the new building upon it. The proposed site was on the south side of the main road to West Granville, immediately west of Mrs. Brown's homestead at the Center. At a special meeting November 29, 1919, it was voted to accept Mrs. Brown's offer. So at last a site was decided upon. But the erection of a public building in most small towns is not a speedy performance and it was not until some months later that a building committee was selected. This was done at a special meeting July 10, 1920, when the following were chosen: Roswell O. Rowley, Howard B. Dickinson, Joseph Welch, Michael Arnold, Elliott F. Barnard, Pearl Phelon, Porter T. Frisbie, Orville R. Noble and Fred N. Gibbons, a group of representative citizens. Plans were agreed upon and it was expected that the cost would be kept within the sum of \$20,000.00. After a time funds were raised, chiefly by private subscription, wherein Mrs. Brown was very active. Perhaps she remembered the battle over the post office. A deed of the site was secured from her, which bears date September 24, 1921, and the next year construction was begun. Everything was moving smoothly, even if slowly, and at a special meeting November 7, 1922, it was voted to sell the old Town Hall and the lot on which it stood. The sale was ultimately made August 11, 1924, to Dr. Holland N. Stevenson.

However, it was not to be that this enterprise should go through to completion without striking a snag. First there arose the question as to whether the deed to the site was sufficient. So in 1924 another, and supposedly better, deed was obtained from Mrs. Brown. By this time all the available funds had been used and the building was far from finished. In this condition work was stopped and there the building stood while more money was raised for its completion. After two years of arduous labor, part of the money necessary to finish the building was raised, and it seemed as though the balance

could not be found until Merle D. Graves, Esq., and his wife, the former Clara Stevenson, came to the rescue in 1926 and provided the remainder of the amount needed. So the work on the unfinished structure was commenced and the task was finished the next year. The building was dedicated September 3, 1927, nearly twelve years after its predecessor had been condemned, and at a cost of over \$10,000.00 more than was at first expected. But it was worth waiting for. It is well adapted for all the present needs of the Town as a Town Hall and Community Center.

Even then, however, the title to the site was not satisfactory, so a third deed from Mrs. Brown was obtained. This one is dated July 20, 1927, and it conveys a plot of land 152.4 feet wide in front and about 200 feet deep, reserving a right of way to Mrs. Brown ten feet wide along the west side of the lot to her land on the south.

At a special Town meeting in May, 1925, it was voted to place on the lawn a boulder bearing a bronze tablet upon which is inscribed the names of Granville men who went to World War I. It is to be hoped that a similar recognition may be made of the services of those who went from Granville to other wars.

The late John M. Stevenson, of Pittsfield and Granville, was an enterprising summer resident, who was always forward looking and up to date. He felt that in a town where the supply of drinking water was not scarce, there ought to be some way of supplying its people from some adequate system, instead of every family being forced to have its own well, or other more or less inconvenient supply. He tried to get the villages of Granville and Granville Center interested in a water system, with but indifferent success. The Center was mildly interested, but Granville village was not. However, he had the courage of his convictions and purchased a small watershed situated between Regan Road and North Lane, put in a reservoir and piped the water to his own house at the Center, as well as to a few other houses. He organized a small corporation, the Granville Water Company, to operate the system, so that Granville, as well as other larger places, has its own water works. After the death of Mr. Stevenson, certain shares of the capital stock of the Water Company came to his daughter, Mrs. Merle D. Graves. Later she offered them to the Town upon certain terms, and at the

annual meeting of the Town on February 14, 1921, it was voted to accept the shares so offered by Mrs. Graves.

In addition to its water supply for Granville Center, the town is an important factor concerning the water supply of neighboring cities. The cities of Westfield and Springfield have acquired almost all the land in the north and northeast part of the town as watersheds for their reservoirs.

Early in the 1890's the City of Westfield began to consider what could be done to increase its water supply, and the result was that it voted on November 24, 1894, to ask the General Court for authority to acquire the watershed drained by Tillotson Brook. In due time the desired authority was granted and Westfield commenced its huge undertaking. The system was to consist of three reservoirs. The first one constructed was the one known as Winchell Reservoir on the lower reaches of Tillotson Brook. This one was built in the years 1898 and 1899, and was in use in the latter part of the latter year. Then a smaller reservoir was built on Japhet Brook, a small tributary of Tillotson Brook.

These two reservoirs were but a beginning, and as funds were available, more farms were acquired, because a large and adequate Granville Reservoir was the goal. Active construction work on the Granville Reservoir was not commenced until 1914, and then moved along very slowly, due to the ups and downs of politics and the scarcity of funds available for that purpose. In 1926, however, the preliminary work was pushed in earnest. The dam was begun in January, 1928, and was finished in December of that year. The Reservoir was then allowed to fill. Water began to run over the spill-way April 15, 1930. This Reservoir covers the site of the first settlement in Granville, the homestead of Samuel Bancroft, as well as much other land. It is fed not only by Tillotson Brook, but also by Bancroft Brook, which comes down from the Wildcat region.

This entire watershed lies within the boundaries of the Town of Granville and is on both sides of the old Westfield Road. A considerable portion of it is being reforested, chiefly with pine. There are about 4000 acres in this watershed and of that amount Westfield has acquired 3487 acres.

Whether the City of Springfield took a leaf out of the book of

the City of Westfield, or whether it made its investigations independently, is now quite immaterial, because in either event the result was the same. It looked to Granville for water. In 1905 it decided to ask the General Court for authority to acquire the Little River watershed to augment its then existing system. The desired permission was duly granted, and the acquisition of land was begun in 1906. The plan was to have two reservoirs in the system, one fed by Borden Brook, a tributary of Little River in the northwest corner of the town, and a very much larger reservoir at Cobble Mountain. The watershed of this system embraces all the land in Granville northerly and northwesterly of the Westfield watershed. The area drained by Borden Brook is almost all within the Town of Granville, but the area supplying the Cobble Mountain Reservoir is only partly in Granville.

The area of the Springfield watershed was less thickly settled than the Westfield watershed, but the result was the same. Many farms have been acquired and the buildings demolished, causing the region to go back to wilderness. In the Borden Brook Reservoir the gates were closed in the latter part of 1909, and water from this reservoir was ready for use January 1, 1910. Construction of the Cobble Mountain Reservoir was begun July 1, 1927, and the dam was finished and the water ready for use in 1932. Of its watershed in Granville, Springfield has acquired 2542½ acres.

Approximately the northeasterly third of the town is now given over to supplying potable water for Westfield and Springfield, and where formerly there was a considerable population devoted to farming and pioneer milling, grist mills, saw mills, powder keg mills and Bates' tannery, now forest trees are encouraged to grow. Farm houses in this area are few and far between. Much reforestation has been done.

And this is not all. For several years the City of Hartford, Connecticut, has been acquiring land in the southern and western part of the town to protect its Barkhamsted Reservoir, and the end is not yet. Land drained by Hubbard River and its tributaries, is needed by Hartford, and as opportunity offers, it is being taken over. Here, as in the northeast part of the town, groups of farm

buildings are razed and reforestation is begun. According to the latest Valuation List, Hartford has acquired title to 1506 acres.

So, Granville may well be considered an important bit of Hampden County in that it is the source of such a vast amount of drinkable water.

In 1926 another innovation came to pass. Electric current was brought to the Town from Southwick, and in addition to lighting private houses, some of the streets were also lighted. The new lights were liked so much that the Town purchased its own plant which it maintained for a few years, but sold it in 1930, finding it more satisfactory to purchase its current.

In 1927 still another change came to pass. The terms of the Selectmen had always hitherto been for the current year only. This was thought by some to make for less competent service than might be achieved if their terms were longer, so it was voted that thereafter the terms of service of these officers should be three years instead of one, and that one should be chosen every year. In that year (1927) the Selectmen were elected for three, two, and one years. However, this method was soon discarded, for in 1931, one Selectman was elected for two years, and in 1932 one was chosen for one year, and thereafter the Town was back on its ancient schedule: electing a full board every year. So ended another experiment.

For many years the Town had used at its elections a ballot box which was so made as to register the number of ballots dropped into it. Something, however, went wrong with the mechanical device as far back as 1900, but allowance was made for its peculiarity and it was used just the same although it would persist in failing to register a few ballots, anywhere from two to twenty-five each time it was used. It is interesting to note the childlike confidence in the contraption. It would be critically examined by the proper election officials, who would peer into its depths to see if any surreptitious ballot might be lurking inside, then in the presence of the moderator it would be securely locked so that no ballots could get in through some devious and unlawful way, and the key would be officially delivered to the constable who carefully kept possession of it until

the balloting was over, when he would officially come forward and ceremoniously unlock the device. The officials would take the reading of the meter showing the number of ballots cast and proceed to remove the ballots, feel around inside the box for any ballot that might be stuck somewhere within, and again peer in to see if any remained in hiding. Then the ballots were counted. The box never registered more than were cast, always less, but never by any fixed ratio. If sixty ballots were cast and found in the box, the registering device might show any number between fifty and sixty. It must have furnished entertainment for some and vexation for others. This sort of performance was repeated every year until 1927 when in desperation the Town voted to get a new ballot box, one that could be relied upon.

In 1931 the Town made its first appropriation, \$300.00, for old age pensions.

So we see vast changes which have taken place since the days of small things two centuries ago. The changes in the business affairs of the Town are no more striking than the changes in the mode of living then and now. Only the Granville hills have remained changeless, although the mental processes of the people have changed but little. They have the same courage, industry, self reliance and integrity.

One way in which we may note the contrast between the pioneer days and the present is to examine the appropriations for carrying on the public business. In 1751, when there were less than seventy families, the expense of the public business was met by a tax of one penny on the pound on all settling land for the support of the church and an equal tax for mending the highways. Just how much this would amount to in the currency of today is uncertain, for this was old tenor money. The tax collector was paid £1 for his services in collecting that tax. There seems to have been no other public expense that year. In 1762 appeared the first item for schools. £20 was raised for that purpose in addition to the church and highway expenses. There were no written reports of the Treasurers of that period or of the sums appropriated by the District, but in 1835, one hundred years after the first settlement, and in 1854, which is one hundred years after the District of Granville was incorporated,

and in 1935, two hundred years after the first settlement, we have complete figures on the point.

1835

For schools	\$500.00
highways and bridges	1000.00
support of the poor	250.00
County tax	268.00
contingent	50.00
special for bridges	150.00
	<hr/>
	\$2218.00

1854

For schools	\$500.00
highways and bridges	1000.00
support of the poor	400.00
County tax	400.00
contingent	700.00
	<hr/>
	\$3000.00

1935

Grouping the various appropriations under substantially the same headings as used above, we have:

For schools	\$22350.00
highway, bridges, etc.	16370.87
support of the poor	3500.00
conducting the business of the Town	7713.47
account of the Town's indebtedness	4225.00
County tax	2781.29
State tax	2700.00
miscellaneous	2715.40
	<hr/>
	\$62356.03

In addition to the above the Town had for expenditure, grants of funds from the Commonwealth and Hampden County amounting to \$18600.00 for highways; also sums amounting to \$1070.00 transferred from previous appropriations; and \$25000.00 borrowed money.

The total valuation of assessed property in Granville on January 1, 1935, was \$1,773,114.00. Indeed, the vision of James Cornish has come to pass.

In terms of population one may get a sort of bird's-eye view of the Town at different periods.

	<i>Families</i>	<i>Population</i>		<i>Families</i>	<i>Population</i>
1735	1	2	1850		1305
1750	76		1860		1385
1765		682	1870		1293
1776		1126	1880		1205
1790	334	1979	1890		1061
1800		2309	1900		1050
1810		1504	1910		781
1820		1643	1920		655
1830		1649	1930		674
1840		1414	1940		668

It is interesting to note that in 1790 there were only three towns in Hampshire County having a larger population than Granville. They were West Springfield, 2367; Westfield, 2204; Conway, 2092. Then came Granville with 1979 and Springfield with 1574.

In 1790 there were 319 dwelling houses in Town, while in 1935 there are only 226.

What of the people whom the Granville hills have nurtured? How did they live? Whither have they gone? When horse-back or chaise was the swiftest method of transportation and all commodities were made by hand, the factor of greatest importance was strong, productive soil. Wherever that was to be found, there grew up a commodity of self-supporting citizens. They were as happy in their day as we are in ours. They lived a simpler, less exacting life than we. Without doubt the first dwellings were log houses, but the equipment for a saw mill came with the very earliest settlers, though the site of this first saw mill cannot now be located. It was, of course, of the up-and-down type and was operated by the power furnished by the brook on which it was located. This first saw mill doubtless had all it could do to furnish timber, plank and boards for the needed new houses and other buildings, as well as for furniture and farm tools, such as sleds, carts, harrows, etc. Elihu Stow, Jr., came from Middletown, Connecticut, in 1780 and settled on

the Blandford road, in what was later called the Stow District. Here he cleared the land and established a home. More or less of his original farm is now flowed by the water impounded by the Cobble Mountain Dam. Five years later his father, Elihu, Sr., followed the son to Granville and built a saw mill on the nearby stream, the first mill in that part of the Town. This old mill was standing and was in operating condition in 1894, when it was said to be the oldest saw mill in the Commonwealth.

Then there was the first grist mill. It was equally necessary to have a place where grain could be ground. The settlers raised their own corn, wheat and rye, and the meal and flour from these grains were used for food for families as well as for horses and cattle. Every little brook had its mill or mills.

Another artisan who arrived early was the blacksmith. We, in these days, can little understand the importance and value to the community, of the blacksmiths. Horses had to be shod, and oxen as well. These two items were, of course, the great part of the work of this vital industry, but there were hundreds of other things for which the smith was needed. Tires for all wagons had to be made and set; sleds to be made; plows to be made; harrow teeth to be made and kept sharp; all kinds of iron repairing to be done. Cast iron was practically unknown. In order to show the variety of work done by a good blacksmith, and the prices he received, a few excerpts have been taken from the account book of John Phelps, who had a blacksmith shop in 1840-1841 at what was then Granville Corners. The original words and terms are used, but not the original spelling. This account book is now in the possession of his granddaughter, Miss Lillian Gaines.

hooping wagon wheels	\$1.00	making sneybills	.75
fixing hammers	.30	laying whiffle trees	.17
making hooks and eyes	1.00	mending hay knife	.13
mending chains	.17	mending stove	.16
nosing a share	.84	mending staple and ring	.83
plates for plow	.37	16 spikes	.16
mending sleigh	.13	2 pair hinges	.50
mending flat	.25	garden hoe	.17
laying pickaxe	.17	footing andirons	.33
ironing cart neap	.75	making rake teeth	.25

shoes for sleigh	1.45	splicing crank	1.00
ironing bucket	.30	making bush hook	1.25
making wedges	.25	making bits for bridle	.25
making pincers	.50	mending forks	.10
ironing cider mill and		mending yoke	.25
making fetters	3.50	pointing drag teeth	.88
sharpening drag teeth	.20	ring for bull	.50
making irons for silk		making 4 knives	2.00
machinery	.34	179 lbs. cart tire at 3 cts.	5.37
making a crank	1.65	1 set cart boxes	1.02
ironing wheelbarrow	.30	bands for cart hubs	.40
reaming bit	.67	ironing saw mill	13.00
laying post axe	.40	mending fanning mill	.20
108 rivets	.87	mending gun	.12
and putting them in	.20	latch and catch	.12
lengthening 45 bolts	1.35	mending hames	.20
making two arbors	1.00	mending pot	.42

Phelps took his pay sometimes in money and sometimes in trade.
From one customer he had

103 bu. coal (charcoal)	\$5.66	4 bu. turnips at 20 cts.	.80
From another		one pound butter	.15
old iron, price agreed	\$1.13	one peck onions	.13
one barrel brandy, gauge		7 pounds sugar	.50
28½ gals. reduce one		half pound tea	.44
one to 8 (price not given)		half pound saleratus	.03
And another		8½ pounds beef	.36
lath, price agreed	1.00	9 collars	.90
600 ft. hemlock boards	3.90	Phelps credits this one with	
Still another		3 bushels apples	.38
12 chickens	1.50	9¼ pounds pork	.92
Another		one bushel salt	.60
108 lbs. beef		two bushels buckwheat	1.20
Another		half bushel beans	.50
7 barrels cider at 75 cts.	5.25	4¼ cords wood	4.25
6 lbs. 9 oz. veal	3.15	two bushels rye	1.67
7 bushels oats		2½ bushels corn	2.00
And this one		one cow	16.50
four days work		18½ gal. brandy at	
4¾ lbs. mutton	.24	40 cts.	7.40
14¼ lbs. wheat flour	.57	one sheep	1.88
23½ bu. potatoes at		barrel flour	5.25
25 cts.	5.87	Then another	
		2 swine, price agreed	3.69

Very likely the condition of barter existed to a much greater extent seventy-five years before the items above given.

The days of the country blacksmith are gone. Several factors are responsible, among them the change from an age of hand labor and simple domestic manufacture to an age of power driven machinery and mass production, the invention of the internal combustion engine and the automobile.

Lest the recollection of these sturdy mechanics drift into the realm of legend, it may be well to set down such information as is at hand concerning those who followed that trade in Granville.

East Granville, now Granville Center, had of course its early blacksmith, but his name and the location of his shop are now forgotten. However, there was a shop on the north side of the Main Road at the foot of the hill just east of the Old Cemetery. When this shop was built and by whom, is not now known, but the following men worked at their trade there: Alexander McCray, David Kellogg, James Andrews, who lived diagonally across the road from the shop, Charles Barnes and John Regan. Mr. Regan was the last to occupy this shop which was destroyed many years ago.

There has recently come to light some data concerning a forgotten Granville blacksmith in the form of an account book. There is nothing to identify the location of his shop or where he lived, but from the list of his customers it seems as though he was located somewhere east of the Great Valley because in his book there are names of sundry Spelmans, Barlows, Crockers and Winchells, all of whom lived in the eastern part of the Town. Homer Griswold apparently had learned his trade in Granby, Connecticut, his home town, and had come to Granville to practice his trade. The reason for this is simple. He had married Abigail Winchell, daughter of a worthy Granville citizen in 1819. He seems to have been impressed by Granville and the products of the town. On the fly leaf of this ancient book he wrote: "Homer Griswold's Account Book. Began work in the blacksmith business in Granville April 15, 1820." The first item in the book is this: "John Crocker dr. to new ax \$1.50." That he carried on his trade successfully for many years appears from one of the last entries which sets forth that on October 12, 1853, he sold to Charles Smith his entire outfit including his "bellos,"

anvil, vise, bench and tools. Whether or not Charles Smith was a blacksmith does not appear.

Middle Granville, now West Granville, had its shops and blacksmiths. A shop which may have been the earliest one in that area, stood on the north side of the Main Road at the top of Ore Hill. When it was there and who plied his trade there have passed out of memory and no written record of it has been found, but unmistakable evidence on the ground formerly was abundant. A later shop stood on the north side of the road in the valley where Mr. Reeves' woodworking mill now stands. The first one of whom the writer has any trace of practicing his trade was Dennis L. Munn. He must have been there about 1850, or before, because he went to Tolland April 9, 1851, where he purchased and occupied a shop a short distance west of the meeting house until his death about 1890. Afterwards the smithy in the valley was at one time in the hands of John Hallberg.

West Granville was also served by a shop, or shops, near the Hartland town line on the road from West Granville to Hartland Hollow. There were at least three blacksmiths who plied their trade in that section. These were Ed. Smith, Steve King and another named Stevens. The dates of their regimes are not ascertained.

However, the place where blacksmiths really flourished was at Jockey Corners, subsequently Granville Corners, and now Granville. Here came Samuel Tillotson about 1808 and purchased the land now owned by Miss Clara E. Wilcox and built a shop at the south end of her garden, which stood for nearly one hundred years until it was discovered one night to be on fire. This fire was one of those curiously unaccountable fires which sometimes wipe out a picturesque portion of the landscape. After Tillotson the smithy was conducted by John Phelps from about 1830 onward. Then came Augustine Holcomb who was followed by his son Andrew. The next one at that shop was Alexander McCray and then came the late George L. Oysler, a very capable mechanic. After the fire which destroyed the old shop, Mr. Oysler built a shop on the south side of Water Street. This shop stood on the south side of the brook a very few rods west of the schoolhouse which was then on the land now owned by Randolph Peterson. This shop was later owned by

Lawrence Henry, who, however, was not a blacksmith. After some years this shop, too, was burned. Nothing daunted, Mr. Oysler proceeded to build a shop near the house where he lived and there carried on his work until his death in January 1939. He was the last actively to carry on his trade in Granville. This shop was torn down in 1941 by Herbert Peck, the then owner. At one time there was so much call for his services that he employed other blacksmiths to assist him. At one time he employed Frank Devenue, then later Edlo Bubiault and at another time Napoleon Marcotte. After working for Mr. Oysler a few years, Mr. Marcotte decided to go into business for himself. He built a shop just south of the house where he lived and equipped it with all the necessary tools and appliances. Here he worked at his trade until the blacksmithing business ceased to be a factor in modern life. When his business went a-glimmering he was forced to earn his livelihood in other lines. As an accommodation to his neighbors he sometimes used to do a small piece of smithy work for them. He was the last operator in town of a trade which has all but disappeared.

Another shop was maintained for a short time at the northwest corner of Water Street and Granby Road. It was built and occupied by Louis Poudre, a French-Canadian, in 1907. After a few months of existence this shop, like the others, went up in flames. Other blacksmiths beside Mr. Oysler practiced their trade in more than one location. Charles A. Barnes, who at one time occupied the shop west of Granville Center, later moved his business to South Lane near the place where Loomis Roberts lived. This location did not prove to be entirely satisfactory, so he moved again and opened a shop on the north side of the Main Road between the house where Roswell O. Rowley lived and the house where Stillman Humphrey lives. Here he conducted a large and successful business until February 19, 1903, when fire destroyed the premises and the shop was never rebuilt.

It is difficult for us, with our present mental picture of Granville, to imagine the extent and variety of the industries carried on in the early days of the Town. Hayward's Gazetteer of Massachusetts, published in 1846, is the authority for the following statement. "Granville manufactured . . . chronometers, watches, gold and

silverware, jewelry, ploughs, powder kegs, maple sugar and large quantities of butter and cheese." In 1854 there were nineteen saw mills in Granville, all in useable condition, and eleven cooper shops where kegs and barrels were made.

Theodore Goodwin manufactured hats in Middle Granville in the early years of the nineteenth century, in addition to keeping a tavern there. Also spectacles and leather pocket-books were made in Middle Granville in the building known as the "Spectacle Shop." This building stood on the south side of the County Road and was the first building west of the house formerly occupied by Mr. Nelson M. Frisbie.* It was demolished only a few years ago. Pocket-books were made also in East Granville. In 1837 the value of this product amounted to \$6240.00.

Another industry of local importance, which has nearly passed out of existence, was the manufacture of wooden bowls, trenchers, and the like. One mill where that sort of wood working was done profitably and to considerable extent stood on Seymour Brook not far from the house once owned and occupied by Mrs. Lena Lemon.† It was called the "Dish Mill," and the short sharp grade in Water Street just below the Lemon house is even now called Dish Mill Hill. After the early days when wooden dishes were common and were used for all sorts of purposes, the handmade lathes in this old mill were devoted to the manufacture of hubs for the wheels of ox carts. This business was carried on by Alexander Seymour who had a shop nearby where he made ox carts of the style locally known as "scow carts." With the passing of the demand for these carts the old mill was neglected, then abandoned, and finally collapsed under the weight of its many years. The dam fell into a state of disrepair and began to leak. Then one time when high water came, it gave way, so that now the site can be located by the ruins, but that is the only vestige of a once prosperous business.

Another mill where wood turning was done stood on Valley Brook west of the William Spelman place, so-called. This mill in its latest days was operated by Bevil C. Dickinson.

There was a tin shop in East Granville, also a cobbler's shop where boots and shoes were made. In a letter written in Granville

* In 1953, vacant. † This house burned in 1952.

by Martin T. Gibbons to his sister, dated December 13, 1857, he says: "The Allens have pretty much closed the shoe business. They do not put out but very little work now. I do not know whether they will revive again when times become easier or not." The days of hand made boots and shoes for the general trade have long since been left behind.

Still another of the old hand made products which is so remote that it will soon be forgotten, is the manufacture of wooden hoops for barrels, once carried on in Granville. The best grade of these hoops was made from alder poles. The poles were cut when they were from one and a half to two inches in diameter. They were then split into quarters. Next the part of the wood nearest to the heart was cut away with a shave and shaving horse. The hoops were then small straight sticks with the bark on one side, which were tied up into bundles of fifty and sold to the makers of barrels, kegs, tubs and buckets.

One other item of hand work was the making of shingles. These were made with a few simple tools. After the tree was cut down and had been cut into blocks of the right length, each block was split into thin pieces with a frow and maul. After that each piece was tapered with a shave and shaving horse, and smoothed ready for use. Usually such shingles were made of hemlock, and it required a rather canny knowledge of trees to be able to know which trees could be split readily and which ones could not. This knowledge gave rise to the Yankee expression approving any display of keen insight, that he "knew what kind of trees would make shingles."

In bygone days gun powder was manufactured in Enfield, Connecticut, and it was necessary, on grounds of safety, to have wooden containers in which to transport this dangerous substance, and the making of kegs for this use became an important industry. Whether or not Granville had a monopoly of the manufacture of powder kegs, it is certain that a great many such kegs were made in town. The staves and heads were of chestnut and the hoops of alder. Granville had an endless supply of both these trees right at hand. There were small mills on every stream and the necessary machinery was simple and primitive. Chestnut was a very stiff, dry, light wood, but it sometimes had been bored through and through by small

worms about the size of the lead in a lead pencil. These little holes would let moisture into the keg and damage the powder, so to meet this difficulty small boys were employed to drive wooden shoe pegs into them. One peg would fill one hole so snugly that it could only with difficulty be extracted. These powder kegs were all taken to Enfield and sold at the powder mills there. For many years the keg makers in Granville could not find any feasible way to make the bungs for the kegs, and the Shakers in Enfield had a monopoly of the manufacture of this small but absolutely necessary part. Finally, Holcomb Brothers, who had a small water power and shop a short distance east of the present drum shop of the Noble and Cooley Co. went to Enfield and learned the process. Thereafter they made all the bungs for the Granville kegs. This worked nicely until the powder mills began to use metal containers made by machinery, as demanded by the United States government. Then another industry of the "made by hand" days went into the discard.

These are the names of a few of those who made powder kegs: Eleazer L. Brown, at the Center; Bevil C. Dickinson, in the lower part of the mill now owned by Howard B. Dickinson; Edward Holcomb, whose shop was on Water Street; William Wells, who had a shop on the Wildcat Road; James and Harmon Cooley in North Lane. Powder kegs were also made in a shop which stood by the brook opposite the house formerly owned and occupied by Edmund Barlow. This shop was later moved away and is now a part of the house formerly owned and occupied by Mary Hunt.

Akin to the manufacture of powder kegs was the making of cider barrels. Oak for the staves grew plentifully in town and Rensaelaer Tryon made barrels in the shop of Simon N. Henry, "painter Henry" as he was called. Mr. Henry was a wheelwright and made wagons in his shop which was between the house now occupied by Stillman Humphrey and the house next east, now owned and occupied by Mrs. Julia S. Rowley. Also the late George L. Gaines was a wheelwright and made and painted wagons in the building now owned by Granville Grange No. 388.

The making of parquet floors was carried on in the latter part of the 1870's and the early part of the 1880's by Otis S. Dickinson. This was done in the mill now owned and operated by Howard B.

Dickinson. These floors had a wide sale, and some laid in Granville when the business was started are now in excellent condition and are just as beautiful as when laid. The wood used was rock maple, cherry and black walnut. The business was so successful that Mr. Dickinson moved to the black walnut country, where his success was notable. Black walnut trees are not native to Granville.

Quite an unexpected enterprise to be found in Granville was the manufacture of gloves. This business was carried on in a house located at the junction of Tillotson Brook and Dickinson Brook. This dwelling stood on land now owned by the City of Westfield as a part of its water shed, but has long since disappeared.

In the days of small manufactures and hand made products, Granville had two tanneries. One was in the west part of the town. It stood on the south side of the road not far from the former home of Nelson M. Frisbie where Pond Brook crosses the main road from Granville to Tolland. It was owned and operated by Lyman S. Marks and his output was chiefly sole leather. The other was located in the north part of the town on Russell River in the Stow School District, at a point just below the place where Sizer Brook empties into the River. This tannery was owned and operated by David Bates, and the largest part of his output was sold to Noble & Cooley for their use in the manufacture of drums, in the early days of that industry. Later Noble & Cooley maintained their own tannery.

It is a matter of interest that in 1859 or 1860, when times were very difficult and there were ten or more men for every job, there was much serious agitation in Town about establishing a factory for the manufacture of a very important garment of feminine wear, to wit:— hoop skirts. Ways and means were discussed, but the necessary money was not to be found, so the project went the way of many other hopes and plans. If it had not fallen through, Granville might now be known as the Hoop Skirt Town, instead of the Drum Town. We are not always aware of what we escape.

In former days, when substantial amounts of grain were raised in Granville for the cattle which grazed on the hill pastures in summer, grist mills were quite common and there were several in town. One of the last, if not the last, was operated in Mr. Howard

B. Dickinson's mill. This mill was built by Mr. Dickinson's grandfather, Bevil C. Dickinson about 1840, and is now the oldest water powered mill in town. It has been in continuous use by some member of the Dickinson family ever since it was built. In this mill was sawed the lumber for what was later known as the Dickinson factory which was built in 1859 by Bevil C. Dickinson. It stood on the north side of the notch road a short distance westerly from the iron bridge over Dickinson Brook. The lumber for this factory was sawed by the first circular saw used in Granville for sawing logs. Mr. Dickinson was a progressive citizen and kept up with the times in which he lived. The water used for power in the factory was taken from Mr. Dickinson's mill pond and conducted in a canal to the flume in the new mill. Portions of the canal are now visible.

Very generally the timbers in these old saw mills were hewed by hand and in order to save as much labor as possible many of the timbers were much larger than actually needed. The timbers in the old mill known as the Edward Holcomb mill, which stood near the present Drum shop, were fourteen inches square and were gotten out by Alexander Seymour in South Lane and drawn over on wheels by oxen. At the time it was done it was not considered a great feat. It was all in the day's work. Meeting and surmounting such difficult tasks made the men of Granville the hardy, resourceful and independent citizens they were.

In connection with the Dickinson mill, excerpts from a letter written by Edward M. Dickinson, of Lanham, Maryland, a nephew of Otis Dickinson, about the mills at this location are of special interest because he has made a thorough study of the subject.

"I have had a personal knowledge of the mills at Granville for over 60 years and I have gathered all the facts I could find for my Family History. I haven't the history with me at this writing, but I think I remember all the facts.

Captain Richard bought the 300 acre farm in 1805. There had been a dam and a water power at the bridge* for a long time before that date. It was known as Barlow's Mills.

The dam was much higher once than when we were young and the pond much larger, covering a large part of the meadow south of the road. A great freshet carried away the top of the dam some-

* The Sodom Street bridge.

time I think after 1805.* It probably also carried away the mill close to the dam on the north side of the road. You will remember the stone part of the dam with the "gate" at its bottom for controlling the storage of water in the pond. I have not found any definite facts about the mill or mills there in 1805. I am quite sure that the mill north of the road contained a grist and flour mill and a saw mill which were needed in every community in those days and it was the principal water power in East Granville.

Captain Richard was a farmer and trader and a sort of a Squire, doing legal business for his neighbors. You have seen those two old leather bound books of Capt. Richard and his son Oliver who was the village blacksmith until he moved to Ohio in 1805, the same year Capt. Richard moved from Granville Hill down to the farm. His son Otis was coming of age and was interested in manufacturing. As Richard was 70 years old, it seems likely that Otis induced him to make this change. There are no mill accounts in Richard's part of the book. Otis used the back part of the book to keep his saw mill accounts beginning Jan. 1st, 1827. He also used his brother Oliver's book. If I knew the date of the big freshet it would help about telling the story of these mills. . . . There were some mills on the south side of the road at the bridge. The carding of wool and the dyeing and fulling of cloth was an important industry in those days of 'home spun.' When I was a boy there were two deep wooden vats in the farther cellar where the sheepnose apples were usually stored. I think they were all that was left of the cloth mills. I think Otis was in company with Lester Farnum in this business. For several years beginning in 1815 there were many accounts by Otis of this business. Judging by the many colors of dye used, clothing was not so dull in those days.

It seems that the tract of about 6 acres was not a part the 300 acres Richard bought. I have forgotten the date, but Otis bought it from other parties about 1850. It contained the little house where he died in 1864 and which he willed to our father and where Uncle Lester used to live. The cloth business of Otis ended about 1830. Then for several years he ran a general store, as well as his saw mill. I think there was another mill and water power built just below the dam after the freshet, but am not sure. I do know that Ethan and Oliver were temperamentally too different to get along together and Oliver followed Horace Greeley's advice and went to Kansas in 1868 and the drum business became E. D. Dickinson's.

When Bevel turned over the business to his sons he was 56 years old and a very active man, and went back to the old mill. The

* Probably the big freshet of March, 1801.

original saw mill was an up and down mill. This had been displaced by a circular saw mill before 1870 and the overshot water wheel was replaced by a turbine wheel in the 70's. The first circular saw mill was moved to the new mill and a more modern saw mill had been installed. Bevel still had the custom sawing business of the community and for several years he did a good business in getting out car timber for the R. R. car shops in Springfield. Timbers for the frame work for R. R. cars were made of oak. A large part of the Dickinson farm lay along the side and on the top of old Sodom Mountain and was covered with a growth of oak timber. The sledging of oak logs down the mountain to the mill by ox team made a good business in the winter, and spring freshets furnished good water power. It was an unusual kind of sawing to cut the timbers according to specifications, something like cutting for ship building. But Bevel's skill was equal to it and it was a good business for several years while the oak lasted. Drum sticks for toy drums were turned by hand and Bevel returned to his old trade* and for a good many years turned all of the sticks for the drum shop.† Bevel's son Otis was an architect and a skilled mechanic. He moved with his family into the second story where he lived for about 15 years after his return from Kansas. He was foreman in his brother's factory and installed the new machinery for the making of the woodenware articles about 1882. Before this he had invented a mosaic flooring which was developed and manufactured in the old mill. The first floor was laid in the new house of Lyman Rose‡ at Granville Corners in 1876.§

Otis perfected this flooring about 1885 and it became a good business requiring some special machinery. Many fine floors were laid in New England and New York. The largest order was for making and laying 3000 (sq.) feet in one of Vermont's famous houses in North Bennington in 1889. Those floors were in perfect condition in 1929. All kinds of native hard woods and foreign woods were used. The supply of fine native timber in Granville was getting scarce and about 1890 he moved his business to Ohio. . . ."

In every place where power could be developed it was done and put to work making a livelihood for its owner and others. Where land could be cultivated with reasonable effort, it was so treated. If any individual had an aptitude for any particular line of work, he did that. In the horse and buggy days hundreds of thousands of

* He was a wood turner.

† The Dickinson drum shop.

‡ This is error. It should be Miles J. Rose.

§ This date should be 1879.

horse whips were annually made in Westfield, and many of the lashes were braided in Granville.

Once upon a time Granville had its own cranberry bog. This was on the easterly side of the Old Westfield road about a third of a mile north of the house where Michael Laptew formerly lived. At that point there is a small swampy place with a small brook meandering through it. Mr. Silas Noble saw the possibilities of the place, and in October 1882 set out a field of cranberries there. A dam was built across the brook and so arranged that in case of a cold night when it seemed that the berries might freeze, the flow of the brook could be stopped and the bog flooded and the crop saved. It was all in accordance with the most approved and up to date procedure for the crop. That it was successful is indicated by the fact that as many as 1200 barrels of cranberries have been shipped from that little bog in one season. After Mr. Noble's death less care was expended upon this enterprise, and cranberries will not grow without care, and the marsh has gone back to bushes and trees.

A very necessary, and often picturesque, individual in the early days was the cobbler, generally an itinerant craftsman. He not only made and mended boots and shoes, but he also was a sort of traveling news vendor. At least one lived in Granville and kept the people "shod" according to their needs. Christopher Miner was for many years such an artisan. Having lived in different towns in Connecticut he finally came to Granville and for a time plied his trade there. His account book covering the years 1763-1801 is extant and the various items appearing therein and the prices thereof give a vivid and interesting picture of one phase of country life during that period. All the money entries are kept in the terms of pounds, shillings and pence (New England values), even after the United States currency was in denominations of dollars and cents. Here are a few items taken at random which show the variety of his labors:

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
making 3 pr. shoes		4		soling a pr. of shoes		2	
mending pr. pumps			10	a pr. of shoes		8	
2 pr. Chancels		4		making 3 pr. cloath			
stitching 2 yds.		2		shoes with heavy			
2 days work		6		boxes		12	
a pr. of shoes	2-	6		tanning 1 hid and 3 skins	17-	6	

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
making 2 pr. cloath shoes	9			leather apron	2		
taning and curying 2				making a pr. of boot			
calf skins	8			straps	1		
soling a pr. of pumps	1-	6		a pr. of sheep skin shoes	5		
8 pr. of heals			6	5 pr. heals			10
soling and healing 1				soling a pr. of boots	1-	3	
pr. shoes	1			thread and binding			
currying 2 sheep skins	1			pr. of shoes			6
making a pr. of boots	10			1 last			1
toeing a pr. of shoes			5	soling and healtaping			
currying a piece of				pr. of shoes	2		
leather	1-	3		mending 20 pr. shoes	19-	6	
making a pr. of moger-				mending one boot	1		
sons	3						

Here are some of his credit items:

1 bu. wheat	4			1 qt. rum	1-	2	
1 felt hat	4			½ cord of bark	5		
2 bu. oats	3			1½ bu. apples	1-	6	
making a bed cord	1			a pr. silver Buckls	1-	2-	0
2 bbls. sider	9			1 qt. brandy	2		
1 bu. corn	2-	4					

Granville was always a town where its citizens obtained the principal part of their living from the soil. What these farmers produced and the prices they received for what they had to sell, in view of the prices prevailing today, is most intriguing. From the account books of two typical farmers the following items are taken. First from the book of Silas Root over the period 1808-1845, which he still kept in the terms of the Colonial currency.

½ bu. potatoes	1			15½ lb. veal	4-	8	
3 hens	6			1 doz. candles			9
5 days work	15			leather for taps	1-	6	
¾ lb. butter			6	½ bu. potatoes			9
4 lb. cheese	2-	2		2 loads of wood	6		
2 lb. cheese, late made	0-	0-	9	1 lb. butter			10
2 qt. vinegar			7	3 lb. pork	1-	10	
4 qt. lime mortar			3	8 loads of wood standing	8		
4 old clapboards 10 ft.				1 hind qr. beef,			
long			7	113 lb.	1-	7-	1½
3 qt. salt	2-	7		3 lb. flax		3	
1 lamb	7-	6		3 qt. seed corn			7

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
14 lb. wool		3-	3	keeping 2 sheep Aug 21-			
2 bu. green apples		3		Nov 21,		3-	2
1 fat lamb		10-	6	18¼ lb. cheese		6-	7
1 bbl. cider		9		64 lb. beef		15-	4
2 bu. corn		4-	6	1 bu. rye		5-	6
½ days work		1-	6	25 cts cash		1-	6
6 bu. turnips		6		2¼ yds. full cloth		13-	6
credit by 1 dollar cash		6		11 lb. 7 oz. mutton		2-	9
2 qt. molasses		2-	3	2 lb. hogs lard		2	
8 lb. flower		2-	6				

From the book of Carlos Gibbons over the period 1815-1857.

18 bu. of potatoes	\$6.00	5 bu. rye	2.50
my wagon to Granby	.32	a pair of oald trousers	.17
2 bu. apples	.50	9 lbs. veal	.36
3 bu corn (July 1, 1816)	3.00	6 bushels oats	2.00
keeping 17 sheep July 10		1 gallon brandy	.40
to Oct. 14	9.39	myself and team sledding	
my wagon to Hartford	1.89	wood	1.50
1 days work shaving		6 lbs. 12 oz. pork	.67
shingles	.58	my mare to Blandford	.25
3 bu turnips	1.00	weaving 25 yards of cloth	1.75
62 ft. joice 2 in. by 7	.75	Mr. Mots chopping one day	.58
1 gallon vinegar	.17	4 cords and ½ wood	4.50
416 lbs. hay	4.16	4 jags of wood	.50
my wagon to Crag mill	.16	16 lb. 3 oz. buckwheat	
Samuel Gillet took 13		flour at 4 cts	.65
bundles of flax to		plowing garden	.50
dress and return to		4 quarts white beans	.16
me two thirds		one pair steers	30.00
1 barrel cider	1.50	four cords oak bark	23.00
my hors to Dr. Humphreys	.16	2 gallons vinnegar	.16
my mare to Hartford	1.00	one days work shinglin	.75
7 lb. beef	.75	digging grave for J. B.	
10 lb. and ¾ of cheese	.86	Holcomb	1.00
½ bu. turnips	.08	making cider in my mill	.16
pasturing 8 sheep 17wk		338 ft. of boards	3.38
1 d	2.00	219 bricks	.60
12 lb. 4 oz. cheese at 4 c	.49	11 lbs. beef	.55

It must not be thought that the male population of Granville had any monopoly of the virtue of courage. It was not, and is not so. There is a well authenticated exploit of a young girl of about twenty

years, Sybil Root, by name, who lived with her parents in Hebron, Connecticut, which is about forty miles from Granville. She had met young Edmund Barlow of Granville and had fallen in love with him. Edmund was busy with his farm in the spring of 1762, and could not well devote much time to journeys about the country, even for this fair maid, although he was, without doubt, much in love with her. Spring is the seed-time for a farmer and Sybil knew it quite well, for she had grown up on a farm. It is most probable they were at that time engaged to be married. She had some urgent reason for wishing to see him, so she set out alone on her horse to accomplish her desire. This was in the days when one travelled either on foot or on horse-back. She came to Granville, made her visit and in due season started back to Hebron. When she left Granville it was later in the day than she thought, and when it became night she was still some distance from her journey's end. Soon she lost her way and made up her mind, after considerable wandering around, that she was lost. Did she give way to hysteria and despair? Indeed, she did not. She dismounted where she was, tied her horse to a sapling, took off the saddle, and climbed a tree where she waited for daylight to come. As it began to grow lighter in the east she heard the familiar sound of a rooster crowing in the distance. It turned out to be one on her father's farm. She and Edmund were married June 3, 1762, in Granville.

One of the colorful personalities in the earlier days of this historic town, was John Phelps. Born in 1768, he had the ambition to get an education. This he acquired according to the standards of that era, studied, or, in the vernacular of that day "read," law and appears to have been the first one to practice that profession in Granville. He lived in Middle Granville. In 1792 he married Betsy Boies of Blandford. He at once became interested in public affairs and in 1797 was elected Town Clerk, in which office he served the Town ten years. Two years later he was chosen one of the Town's representatives to the General Court. He served the Town seven years in that capacity. In 1802 he was elected one of the Selectmen, which office he held four years. His political faith was that of the Federalists. It so happened that he was a member of the General Court in 1811 and 1812, when the matter of creating Hampden County

was agitated and finally determined. The new County was set off in 1812 when Elbridge Gerry, a Jeffersonian Democrat, was Governor. This was a time of extreme political activity, coming as it did just before and at the time of the outbreak of the 1812 War, and political bitterness was very intense. Of course, the new County must have a Sheriff, and equally of course, the Governor would appoint a Democrat. The fly in the ointment, however, was this. The Governor's term of office was to expire before the County government of the new County was to begin to function. In those days the sheriffs of the Commonwealth were not chosen by election, but were appointed by the Governor. That method obtained until 1856, since which time the sheriffs have been chosen by the electorate. Before the end of Governor Gerry's term there occurred another election, which all the criteria indicate was a real hot one, and the Federalists came into power. In this election Governor Gerry fell by the wayside and Caleb Strong was elected. One of the things Governor Gerry did before he stepped down and out of his office was to appoint Jonathan Smith, of West Springfield, to be the Sheriff of Hampden County, the appointment to take effect when that County became a separate political unit. The Governor was going to save what political spoils he could for his party. He also appointed Samuel Fowler of Westfield to be Judge of Probate in Hampden County in the same way he had appointed Smith to be the Sheriff. When Mr. Strong took up the duties of the Governor's office, he appointed Federalists to both of these offices, John Phelps to be Sheriff and John Hooker to be Judge of Probate. The new Judge of Probate was a fighter, and when Mr. Fowler would not let him take possession of the Probate office, he caused the State to bring a suit to get possession of it.* As the question was the same regarding both offices, one suit was enough to determine the principle and John Phelps did not sue for his rights. The Supreme Judicial Court quickly held that Governor Gerry's appointment of Mr. Fowler was void, and in conformity with that decision Mr. Smith peaceably surrendered the office of sheriff to Mr. Phelps, who thus became the first Sheriff of Hampden County in 1813, which office he held until his death in 1831.

* *Commonwealth vs. Samuel Fowler*, 10 Mass. 290.

He kept his residence in Granville and went to Springfield to open every term of court. He built the house where he lived. It is the brick dwelling in the present village of West Granville, and the brick used in the construction were made just below Fred Coe's house,* which was the third one south of the County Road, as one goes toward Hartland Hollow. In those days Granville was farther from Springfield, in point of time, than it is now, and sometimes Sheriff Phelps would arrive home in the last part of the day or early evening with a prisoner to be lodged in the Springfield jail. This was at times embarrassing, but he was equal to the emergency. He had a couple of brick cells made in the cellar of his house, a sort of private jail, where he used to keep his prisoner until daylight.

John Phelps was of the old school. He believed in the majesty of the law and the dignity of the Court, and that the Sheriff should be the first gentleman of the County, in accordance with the English tradition. In those days to be the sheriff meant more than to be a server of writs and a catcher of criminals. It was considered that only a lawyer made a fit and proper Sheriff and that the office was one of great dignity. Until 1845 the Sheriff wore a uniform and dress sword, brass buttons, buff colored vest, silk hat and cockade. A contemporary said of Sheriff Phelps: "His passage from Granville to the County seat attracted not a little attention, as he usually traveled in a fine coach and in a style befitting 'the first gentleman of the County.' He was a large man with gray hair, well cut features and a voice in proportion to his physical endowments." Another described him as "the abrupt and loud voiced Sheriff Phelps, prompt in the maintenance of order, but always kind, polite and courteous." In the court room he was a martinet and allowed not the least disturbance or disorder. He was said to have been very kind and patient with children. It was his custom to call at the hotel where the Judge was stopping and ceremoniously escort him to the court house, and then after the session was over, escort him with equal ceremony back to his hotel. One can easily imagine him opening court. He would stand at his desk, strike three resounding blows with his gavel, and command in a loud voice "All rise." Then when all were at attention and silent, in a sonorous tone which could be

* This house was taken down as it was in the Hartford watershed.

heard all over the court room, and probably outside as well, go on with the ritual, "Oyez, oyez, oyez," etc. He maintained the office according to the best tradition.

John Phelps was not the only lawyer in Granville. About 1811 or 1812, James Cooley, born December 29, 1779, in East Granville, began the study of law under him, and so zealous was Mr. Cooley, or so fine an instructor was Mr. Phelps, or both, that Mr. Cooley was admitted at the County seat to practice his profession in 1814. Until his death he had his office in a small building, built for the purpose, on the north side of the main road in East Granville. In addition to his law practice, he served the Town as its Clerk ten years, and it is due to his sound judgment and meticulous care that any of the earliest records of Bedford are preserved to us. He served two years on the board of Selectmen, and six years as the Town's representative to the General Court. He died in 1851, having lived all his life in Granville.

Still another Granville boy became a lawyer and practiced in West Granville until wider horizons beckoned him to a larger field. Patrick Boies, born February 21, 1787, without doubt studied under John Phelps and was admitted to practice in 1815. He too, served the Town as well as practicing his profession. He was Town Clerk for six years, one year Selectman and three years one of the Town's representatives in the General Court. In 1832 he was a member of the Governor's Council, and in 1833 and 1834 he was elected to the State senate. About 1834 he removed to Westfield, where he was very successful in his practice. In 1853 he was appointed to the office of Sheriff of Hampden County by Governor John H. Clifford, and filled that office two years, being the last Sheriff of Hampden County to be appointed by the Governor.

In Middle Granville on January 23, 1779, there was rejoicing in the family of Colonel Jacob Bates, even if it was a cold winter. There was a new boy in town. They named him Isaac Chapman. He was a bright lad. He grew to be a strong youth, active physically and keen mentally. After the usual common school studies had been completed, he studied under that famous teacher, Dr. Cooley, who had married Isaac's half sister, Content Chapman. Here he was fitted for college and went to Yale where he was graduated valedictorian of the class of 1802. He then commenced the study of law

in New Haven. Soon, however, we find him in Northampton studying in the office of Judge Samuel Hinckley. He was admitted to the bar in Northampton in 1805. While in college he developed great ability as a writer of excellent English and as a convincing speaker. Soon after his admission to the bar, he had an opportunity to make a public address upon an historical occasion in Northampton. His commanding presence, silvery voice and pleasing delivery attracted attention. He represented Northampton in the General Court in 1808-9 and also in 1835-6. In 1827 he was elected to the United States House of Representatives and served in the 20th, 21st, 22nd and 23rd Congresses. He was a member of the Governor's Council two years and in 1836 he was a presidential elector on the Whig ticket, and again in 1840. In 1841 he was elected to the United States Senate for the unexpired term of John Davis and then re-elected for a full term 1841-7, and died in Washington, D. C., March 16, 1845, shortly after making a notable speech opposing the admission of Texas into the Union. He married Martha Henshaw, September 21, 1807, by whom he had three sons and five daughters. Hon. Isaac Chapman Bates was one of Granville's most illustrious sons.

Another great lawyer who was born in the Granville hills was Hon. Anson V. Parsons. He was a son of Joel and Phebe (Robinson) Parsons, and was born September 1, 1799. After getting his education he drifted to Philadelphia, where he studied law and was admitted to practice. After some years in his adopted city, he was appointed Judge of the Court of Common Pleas there, which position he filled with the utmost credit. He was intelligent, fearless and honest, an ornament to any court in any state. He married first Mary Hepburn, by whom he had eleven children, and second Sarah R. Myer. His death occurred September 23, 1882.

Then too, there were Elijah Bates, one of the most influential men of his time in Hampshire County, also his son, William G. Bates, a prominent lawyer and the historian of the Hampden County Bar, and Charles F. Bates, another sound lawyer from the green hills of Granville.

Not all the product of the Granville hills attained distinction in the law. Shining examples are found in other fields. One of these is

Oliver Phelps. Born October 21, 1749, in that section of Windsor, Connecticut, called Poquonock, the seventeenth child of Thomas and Ann (Brown) Phelps, he came to Granville when he was twenty-two years old and started life as the proprietor of a small country store, having been previously employed in such a store in Suffield, Connecticut. He married Mary Seymour of Hartford, Connecticut. It is a marvel how he did all the things he is credited with having done, and which are a matter of record. His first public service was as one of the Committee of seven who were chosen July 11, 1774, "to inspect the debate between the Colonies and Great Britain," as previously noted. It is said that he was present at the battle of Lexington. His experience as a merchant had led him into a wide acquaintance in the Colony, and by reason of his ability he was in 1776 appointed Deputy Commissary of the Colonial Army on the staff of General H. Champion, at that time Commander in Chief. Thereafter he was made Superintendent of Purchases for Massachusetts in the Revolutionary Army. He was a member of the Governor's Council. All these duties for the nation and state were carried on with dispatch and success, in addition to which he kept up his store at home and performed various public duties there. In 1778 he was elected Town Clerk, which office he held for nine consecutive years. This period included all those difficult days in the latter part of the War for Independence and the days immediately thereafter. He served as one of the Selectmen six years beginning 1779, and he was one of the Town's representatives to the General Court in 1779 and 1780. It would seem that his knowledge and ability were appreciated wherever he went, for his capacity for work seems to have been without limit.

Due to the terms of their charters, for many years there had been conflicting claims by the Province of Massachusetts Bay and the Colony of New York to certain land now within the limits of the State of New York. When independence was secured, the dispute was still unsettled. Finally the two states agreed to meet in convention at Hartford, Connecticut, and try to settle it. This convention was held December 16, 1786, and the long standing dispute was settled. By the terms New York granted to Massachusetts the right to purchase from the Indians a tract of land in the western part of

the state, called the "Genesee Country." This tract contained 6,000,000 acres and included all the land west of what was called the "Old Preemption Line."

Without doubt Oliver Phelps learned the details of this matter through his intimate relations with Massachusetts officials. But whether he learned of it that way or not, he and Nathaniel Gorham bought the whole tract from the Commonwealth the very next year, and the following spring left Granville and went to see what his new purchase looked like and make his peace with the Indians. It turned out that the Indians had title to only 2,250,000 acres. He made a treaty with the tribes for this amount of land. Finally he abandoned his claim to the remainder. Just what became of Gorham does not appear, but he seems to have been inactive in the scheme, and Phelps appears to have carried it through alone. There is a town by the name of Gorham in what was a part of this tract and it may well be that it was established by Mr. Gorham on a part of his share of the original purchase. The next year, 1789, after the deal with the Indians he drew up a system for the survey and layout of large tracts of land by sections and ranges, which with very slight changes is the system adopted by the United States land office and now used for the handling of all the public lands. Having the land in shape to convey it, he opened at Canandaigua the first regular land office in the United States for the sale of land to settlers.

Canandaigua became the shire town of Ontario County and with the rapid growth of population in this fertile area, a court was established and in 1792 Oliver Phelps was appointed to be the Judge of Ontario County. He also was elected in 1803 to the United States House of Representatives. He raised the first wheat grown in the Genesee Country and built and operated the first grist mill in that region. In 1799 he gave to Canandaigua Academy 6000 acres of land as an endowment. He was interested in, and worked to promote, everything for the improvement of society, whether economic or social. He was a personal friend and supporter of Thomas Jefferson. Not a few families went from Granville to Canandaigua in the latter years of the eighteenth and the early years of the nineteenth centuries, and the reason no doubt was their friendship and esteem for him. He moved his family to Canandaigua

in 1802 where he remained the rest of his life. He died February 21, 1809, leaving a wife and two children. He is buried in the old cemetery in Canandaigua and the monument at his grave bears the following inscription:

This is erected
To the memory of
The Hon. Oliver Phelps, Esq.
Who died 21st Feb., 1809,
In the 60th year of his age.

He was born in the Town of Windsor in the State of Connecticut. At the age of 7 years he removed to Suffield. And at the age of 22 years he removed from thence to Granville in the State of Massachusetts where he was honored with many important trusts under the Government of that Commonwealth.

At the commencement of the Revolutionary War he took an active part in the defence of his country and in various offices and relations remained with the American Army until Great Britain was compelled to acknowledge the Independence of the United States.

On the 1st of April, 1788, the deceased, in company with the Hon. Nathaniel Gorham, Esq., purchased of the commonwealth of Massachusetts its preemptive right to the Lands now comprised in the Counties of Ontario, Steuben, Genesee, Niagara, Cattaraugus, Chataqua and Alleghany, in July of the same year, he extinguished the Indian title to that part of it now comprehended in the Counties of Ontario and Steuben and immediately thereafter opened the settlement of the Country, which has been generally known by the appellation of the

GENESEE COUNTRY.

In March, 1802, he removed with his Family to this place, where he resided until his death. He was appointed First Judge of the County of Ontario and elected a Representative in Congress for the District.

Enterprise, Industry and Temperance cannot always ensure success, but the fruit of these virtues will be felt by Society.

Truly, the Hon. Oliver Phelps must have belonged to a race of Titans.

Timothy Rose, who had served three years in the Colonial Army, was another early settler who had the courage of his convictions. It having been decided early in 1805 that numerous families in Granville would remove to Ohio and there found a Town upon a

more fertile soil, he organized the group of pioneers and assembling them at the home of Jesse Spelman, after a most earnest prayer by Dr. Cooley, he led them through the new country to the wilderness of the "far west" and founded the Town of Granville, Ohio. The journey occupied 44 days but the entire party arrived in safety the middle of November. As the settlement grew and the surrounding area was settled, there arose the need for a court. Licking County was established and Timothy Rose was appointed Judge to preside over its Court. He served in that capacity the rest of his life, dying November 27, 1813. When the little hamlet in the woods needed a post office, he took the necessary steps to have one established there and he was the first postmaster. Hon. Timothy Rose was a citizen of whom any community might be proud and was a normal product of the hills upon which he had been bred.

Another citizen to whom Granville owes much must be mentioned, Col. Timothy Robinson. He was born in Durham, Connecticut, and came to Granville with the migration from that Town soon after 1741. He lived in West Granville. He was the third Clerk of the District of Granville and retained that office for District and Town continuously for twenty years. He served as one of the Selectmen during twenty-eight of the years from 1762 to 1795, all through the trying times before, during and after the War for Independence. He was the first man chosen to represent the Town in the General Court, and he served the Town as one of its Representatives, and frequently the only one, for thirteen of the years from 1777 to 1794. He was chairman of the Committee elected by the District "to inspect the debate between the Colonies and Great Britain," and prepared and drew up their report. He was captain of the third Company of soldiers sent out from Granville in the Revolution, but because of unforeseen delay only part of his Company was present at the surrender of Burgoyne at Saratoga. He specially represented the District and Town many times on urgent missions before the General Court. He was a deacon of the church for thirty years. It almost seems as though *he* was Granville, for he was the leader and adviser in every public enterprise. His death occurred April 1, 1805. There appears to have been every reason and justification for the epitaph on his tombstone in the

West Granville cemetery: "He lived respected and died lamented."

One anecdote concerning him is well worth preserving. It is contained in an excerpt from a letter of Elizur D. Moore to the *Westfield Times and Newsletter* about August 13, 1881, and is as follows: "Titus Fowler, my grandfather, moved into Town just before the Revolutionary War . . . At the time of Shay's Rebellion (1787) Esq. Fowler and Col. Robinson started for Springfield. Mr. Shay took them at East Granville, kept them over Sunday and let them go on to Springfield."

This little fracas occurred in a rather more serious mood than Mr. Moore states and had a rather more comic outcome. From other sources it is learned that the group which took "Esq. Fowler and Col. Robinson" prisoners were part of the Shay armed forces and were in no peaceful frame of mind. The capture was made on Saturday, at a point on the main road between Granville Center and West Granville near its intersection with Regan Road, a few rods east of the site of the second meeting house. During that evening and all day Sunday the prisoners argued with their captors over the errors of the rebels and the justice of the position of the Congress, and their own inoffensiveness, with the result that the prisoners were turned loose on Monday morning and told to go on about their business, which they did quietly and expeditiously. This is the nearest to a military skirmish that ever occurred on the soil of Granville.

Another boy from the hills of Granville who attained conspicuous political success was John Eaton Mills who was born October 14, 1796, in the West Parish. At the age of nineteen he went to Canada and settled in Montreal where he engaged in business and by means of integrity and perseverance rose to prominence in that city and was elected to the office of Mayor by an appreciative constituency. He died November 11, 1847, at the age of 51.

Not all the people who have gone out from Granville gravitated into the political life. There were many who were spiritual leaders, of whom the mention of a few will suffice.

Perhaps the most notable of these was Gordon Hall, a son of Nathan and Elizabeth Hall. He was born April 8, 1784, in the West Parish, now the Town of Tolland. He was a boy of boundless energy, unlimited perseverance and extreme versatility. He also

had the rare ability to make sound decisions quickly. When he had acquired as much education as the local schools offered, Rev. Roger Harrison, the beloved minister of the parish, suggested that he go to college. This he decided to do. Mr. Harrison gave him additional instruction so that he entered Williams College, where he graduated in 1808, the valedictorian of his class. After a year of intensive theological study he was licensed to preach and for a few months preached in Woodbury, Connecticut, and elsewhere. In 1811 he decided to become a missionary and conferred with the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, then a young organization, as to ways and means. He was ordained February 6, 1812, at Salem, Massachusetts. He and Adoniram Judson, a kindred spirit, decided to start their labors in southeast Asia. Finally they sailed, though not on the same ship, from Philadelphia under the auspices of the American Board, and landed in Calcutta, India, in the summer of 1812, where they were forthwith ordered to be deported to England. After much buffeting around Judson reached Rangoon and Hall, with a companion named Nott, arrived at Bombay in February, 1813, where he proposed to establish a mission. Here was more trouble and delay, deportation orders and other difficulties. At long last everything was overcome and in December, 1813, he was allowed to establish the first Protestant mission on the west coast of India. Here he lived and labored successfully the remainder of his short life. On a short journey inland from Bombay he was stricken with cholera at four o'clock in the morning of March 20, 1826, and in five hours was dead. He is buried at Doorlee-D'harpoor where he died. The Town of Tolland has erected a commemorative boulder on the green near the church.

Rev. Publius V. Booge, son of Rev. Aaron J. Booge, had his first pastorate in Winchester, Connecticut, and afterward in Vernon, New York. Others who served in the ministry long and with distinction are Rev. John Seward, son of John; Rev. Harvey Coe and Rev. David L. Coe, grandsons of Samuel; Rev. Truman Baldwin and Rev. Benjamin Baldwin, son and grandson respectively of Amos; Rev. Charles F. Robinson, who died at St. Charles, Missouri; Rev. Bela Newton Seymour, son of Deacon Ardon, graduated from Williams College in 1852, was ordained June 30, 1855, and went

as a Christian missionary to that indefinite area described as the South Seas, and about whose departure Mrs. Sigourney wrote a short poem entitled: Farewell to the young missionary.

All these were nurtured in the unchanging hills of Granville, where they caught the vision of service. Others too, in those early days, struggled for the highly prized college education, and most of them were fitted for their tasks by that great teacher and preacher, Dr. Cooley, and doubtless were inspired by him to go on and make the most of themselves.

Granville has always been fortunate in having one or more resident physicians. In the early days they generally lived in Middle Granville, but with the changing of the center of population, they have in later times resided in the eastern part of the Town. One of the earliest was Dr. Josiah Harvey, who was practicing about 1768, the year of his marriage, until his death in 1807. He clearly was much beloved by his townsmen, for in 1780 he was chosen one of the Town's representatives to the General Court, and he served the Town eight years as one of the Selectmen. He also served the Colonies in the Revolutionary War as a surgeon. He was a typical old-fashioned country doctor, who could and did help in any stress and time of need. His son Rufus followed in the footsteps of his father with equal success, but died in Granville in 1817 at the early age of 49 years.

Another of the same type who stands out sharply was Dr. Vincent Holcomb, born February 5, 1795, a son of Alvin and Mary. He began to practice his profession about 1818 and continued until his death in 1863. He too, was a versatile and resourceful physician, as one must be to be a successful country doctor. He knew his people, and he not only attended their physical ills, but also kept many from losing their psychological balance as well. He found time also to serve the Town as its Clerk seven years at different times; one year as a representative to the General Court; and two years as one of the Selectmen. He also served the country as a non-commissioned officer in the War of 1812, under command of Capt. Isaac Phelps. His house was on the north side of the road and is the first one west of Pond Brook, in the present village of West Granville.

Here he not only diagnosed the troubles of his patients, but also compounded his medicine and made his pills for their cure.

Dr. David B. Curtiss was another Granville doctor who served in the War of 1812. He not only served, but died in the army in 1813.

Not all the Granville boys who became physicians remained at home. Among those who went to other fields, was Dr. Charles C. Holcomb, a son of Dr. Vincent, who was born in Granville in 1829, graduated from Yale in 1850, and when his medical studies were over, went to Lee, Massachusetts, to hang out his shingle. He must have studied with his father and also must have inherited much of his father's ability, for he practiced there fifty-four years, until his death February 1, 1908. No doctor can practice medicine in a small town or country village half a century unless he is able, respected and successful.

It seems permissible at this point to mention an unusual feature which prevailed in Granville, and probably elsewhere as well, in the first part of the nineteenth century. A letter from Dr. Samuel B. Barlow, then of New York, dated July 16, 1873, gives many recollections of his boyhood days. He was born in Granville April 19, 1798. He discussed many things and among them the change in fashion in coffins. Perhaps being a doctor that subject was one which forced itself upon him at most unwelcome times. He says coffins were black in color at the time of his earliest recollection. They were stained with lamp black mixed with vinegar, and then rubbed down to a very high polish. Later the color was changed to a tone of red somewhat brighter and lighter than cherry. He says he vividly remembers the first red one he ever saw. It did not make a sensation, but it was the subject of considerable comment.

Another fact or tradition ought to be rescued from oblivion. Copper in considerable quantity had been found in Granby. Why should it not exist in Granville? Sodom Mountain seemed a likely place. Toto, in his deed, had conveyed all the "Rockes, mynes, Minerals." So from time to time this idea was acted upon. Prospecting, more or less thorough, was done at intervals and about the middle of the last century somebody made up his mind there was something to be found there. The late Town Clerk Silas B.

Root, who was born at the foot of that mountain, told the writer that a company was once formed and secured a lease or deed of the mining rights in Sodom Mountain for 99 years; that his father owned land on the south side of the mountain and he with others, notably John A. Root, Martin T. Gibbons, Bevil C. Dickinson and all the other owners of land on that side of the mountain executed some sort of document to that effect. This occurred between 1850 and 1870. Mr. Root could not remember further details, except that a small deposit of lead was found at the southerly end of the mountain, but not in sufficient quantities to be profitable. A very exhaustive search has failed to uncover any record of any instrument showing any trace of such an operation or the name of any company or individual connected with it. Mr. Root was in a position to have known of the fact and his memory was very reliable. In any event, it is interesting.

Nearly every hill town has, at some time, had one or more residents who have "wondered if there was gold in them thar hills." Granville is no exception. Some one found a trace of gold at the Dan Holloway farm near the end of North Lane, West Granville, and started a mine there, but it turned out to be a trace, and not a mine.

A similar experience, only it was silver instead of gold, occurred on the farm of one of the Ripleys on Beech Hill. This too, proved to be but a trace, just enough to stir the imagination.

As an historic Town, Granville ought to have some very ancient houses, but with nothing of importance in the way of fire protection most of the really old houses have fallen prey to conflagration, while others have been demolished as being on the water shed of some municipality. In the village of Granville the dwelling which was formerly the first meeting house of the Baptist church was built in 1824. The house where Miss Clara E. Wilcox lives is very old, and is older than the one just mentioned, probably having been built about 1809. At Granville Center there are some old houses, notably the Dr. Cooley house, now owned by Mr. Louis Stevenson; the parsonage; the small house just west of the Steve Seymour house; the house immediately east of the meeting house, formerly known as the Sabbath Day House; and the house west of the meeting house

now owned by Dr. Holland N. Stevenson, which was built in 1814. There are some eighteenth century houses in various parts of the town, but exact data is very difficult to unearth. In West Granville the John Phelps house seems to be older than any others. Without doubt the meeting house in West Granville is one of the oldest buildings in town, having been built in 1778. The meeting house at Granville Center was built in 1802. The house owned by Dr. Stevenson is said to be the most beautiful mansion in town.

Another house, though not now standing, deserves to be mentioned. It was the old Peebles mansion in the Beech Hill section of the town. It was large, well proportioned and built of brick. This grand old mansion had the misfortune to have been erected on land now owned by the City of Springfield as a part of its Borden Brook Reservoir. It stood beside Peebles Brook, now for some unaccountable reason called Borden Brook, where the present reservoir overflows the land. Before the reservoir could be filled, this old mansion had to be demolished, which was done. The brick of which it was constructed were made by hand and burned not far from where it stood and were of such good quality that, in the process of demolition they were saved and used to make the house occupied by the Superintendent of the Borden Brook Reservoir.

There seems to have been a general store at Middle Granville from about the time of the migration from Durham in the early 1740's, also one at East Granville Hill from the earliest settlement, but Jockey Corners was not of sufficient consequence to have a store until along in the 1840's, but it is now making up for lost time. The first store at the Corners was, so far as can be ascertained, in a part of the house formerly owned by Herbert A. Hiers. According to one of the old residents, this house was built by Edmund Barlow. Soon afterwards a store was established in a building which stood immediately west of the site of the Gibbons store, which was kept by Timothy C. Gillet. In 1851 Carlos Gibbons opened a store beside Mr. Gillet and after a short time his son J. Murray Gibbons was asked to run it. This he did so successfully that the business grew immensely. Mr. Gillet went out of business. The drum shop was causing more families to reside at the Corners and the Gibbons business grew correspondingly, but it met with a temporary check

when the store was destroyed by fire September 1, 1884. Nothing daunted, Mr. Gibbons, the owner at that time, opened temporary quarters in the building now owned by the Granville Grange, while a new building was being built. As soon as the new store was ready for occupancy, he moved back to his old location. It was the largest building, except the meeting houses and the drum shop, in the east part of the town. A large hall occupied the second floor, and a wing was arranged for a dwelling. Mr. Gibbons later died and his four sons carried on the business. In the passage of time two of the sons died also. Then one cold Sunday morning, December 4, 1934, with the thermometer registering at zero, fire again broke out in the Gibbons store. In addition to the store and hall, various parts of the building were occupied by four different families. The fire was discovered about four o'clock in the morning. Fortunately there was no wind. In response to telephone calls, equipment from Southwick and Westfield responded. Twenty-three minutes after receiving the call, the Westfield engine was pumping water from the brook where it crosses the road to Granby, on the burning building. By good fortune all the inmates of the building were saved, as well as a large part of their belongings. All the equipment of the Post Office, which was located in the store, was saved, but the building was doomed, and in four hours it was all in ashes. Arrangements were made so that the mail service could be resumed in the basement of the Library building, and mail was received and delivered as usual Monday morning. Also in the Library basement a rough and ready sort of store was, according to the Gibbons tradition, maintained while a new store building was erected. Now Granville has as fine and up to date a country store as can be found. For over 90 years, except a few months when it was conducted by a partnership known as Bailey & Tinker, or by Mr. Tinker alone, this Gibbons family, father, son and grandsons, maintained a first class country store and incidentally has made a nation-wide reputation for the cheese they sell. Granville is not a cheese making town. All of this staple article, which the Gibbons brothers sold, was made in various parts of the country. First they knew a good cheese when they examined it, and second they knew how to take care of it until it is in its best condition to eat. In 1934 they sent away by mail to cus-

tomers, many of whom are of long years standing, between 7000 and 8000 pounds. This is in addition to what was sold to customers who came to the store and carried away their own purchases. This record ought to be one not easily eclipsed.

In 1944 the Gibbons interests in the store were sold to Paul C. Nobbs who successfully conducts the business according to the Gibbons tradition.

One can never tell what a hero may look like nor when he will appear, but when the right sequence of circumstances occurs, the stage is then set, and behold, there is your hero. In 1913 Thomas Jensen was a young farmer living with his parents on Sodom Street. On the 10th of July in that year he chanced to be in Westfield. Suddenly a horse drawing a vehicle containing a woman and two children came madly dashing down the street, a runaway. Every one and every thing was giving it a wide berth. The wagon was swaying from side to side threatening to spill, and probably kill, the frightened occupants. Tom saw it. Something must be done, and that quickly. There was no time to consider, if they were to be saved. He stepped out into the street, seized hold of the wagon as it passed him, swung himself up into it, stopped the runaway horse and saved the woman and children. In so doing, however, he slipped and one leg was caught in one of the wheels. He was so seriously injured that he died three days later. True, one cannot tell what a hero may look like—till afterwards. The following January Thomas Jensen was cited as a hero by the Carnegie Hero Fund Committee and his parents were granted a pension of \$30.00 a month. The people living on the everlasting hills of Granville have not degenerated. There are just as many heroes now as there ever were. All it needs to make them appear is the right combination of circumstances.

Many times an event which will be passed by without a thought in a large place, will be an occurrence of the seven-days-wonder type in a small place. Such an event stirred Granville September 5, 1909. A circus, full-fledged with elephants, camels, lions, tigers, red wagons and all, arrived in town. It was a Friday. The management parked it on the then baseball ground, which is the field where the Village School building now stands. It did not come to give a performance, but was passing from West Springfield to Winsted, Con-

necticut, and the road through Granville was the shortest route. It was a real thrill to see a real circus in the Granville hills. It stayed over Sunday and the entire village turned out to gaze in wonder at the appearance of such a group of captive animals, with Sodom Mountain in the background. Of all things! A circus in Granville. Aye, quite correct. It actually happened. And what is more, afternoon and evening performances were given.

From 1686 to 1906 is a considerable span of time. For Granville it meant a change from a state of natural wilderness to a state of high cultivation; from an abundance of wild game to a scarcity of it and as to some species, its extinction. Yet in November of that latter year Wilbur E. Pendleton caught an otter in a trap set for a quite different animal. Otters had been supposed to be extinct in this region for nearly a hundred years. Then again in October 1914, another stranger appeared in Granville. This time it was a moose. It was seen by several different persons in the front yard of Charles A. Sheets' home. It was in the bright light of day and the animal was only about thirty feet from the house. After a time it moved on as though a call in a civilized community was nothing unusual. It was said to have been about as large as a medium sized cow, but had much longer legs.

Another fact which ought to be mentioned, because it may well be important some time, is regarding the disappearance of the chestnut trees. From the earliest knowledge of the town, chestnut trees had been very abundant. They grew to a large size, four, five, or even six feet in diameter. They made excellent lumber for some purposes, as well as the most lasting fence rails and posts. The nuts too, were a source of income every year. All in all, it was one of the most useful trees in this region. They generally were in full bloom about July 4th, and their dark cream colored blossoms were very conspicuous against the green leaves of the surrounding trees. The blossoms gave off a very strong and pleasant odor which could be readily noticed at very great distances, if the wind was that way. About 1900 or 1901 a curious disease seemed to attack the younger trees. It was called a blight. Whatever it was, there seemed to be no cure for it. It grew progressively more destructive and in ten years there was not a live chestnut tree in Granville. Science could

not find any means of checking this immense loss. The larger trees just died and remained standing until either they were cut down or the roots rotted and they fell down. Where the trees were tall and straight, they were as a rule cut down at once and made into lumber. Such lumber seemed to be none the worse for the fate which had befallen the tree. A few ghostly spectres may be still standing with stark limbs pointing to the sky, but they are not many and a very short time will see the last one fall.

Curiously enough many long dormant nuts buried in the ground have sprouted and grown, sometimes to a sapling two inches or more in diameter, but the blight still gets them all. It is hoped that at last the sprouts will become immune, so that in the future chestnut trees will again grow abundantly on the hills of Granville.

A rather unaccountable fact in connection with the loss of our chestnut trees is worth noting. When the chestnuts flourished there were practically no white, or paper, birches in town. Not many years after the chestnuts had all died because of the blight, the white birches began to appear. They grew tall, slender and beautiful. Thirty-five years (1945) after the chestnuts were gone this species of birch was conspicuous for their vast numbers where none had been before. The query immediately arises, how did this come about? How did the seed get there? How long had the seed been in the ground before it germinated? Why didn't the birches grow while the chestnuts were plentiful? Is there any connection between the disappearance of the chestnuts and the appearance of the birches? If so, what is it? Perhaps some scientist may know the answers, but to a layman it is very strange.

About 1907 or 1908 the Hampden County Improvement League attempted to get the people of Granville interested in raising apples. It offered to set out an orchard of several acres and take care of it for twenty years, giving demonstrations of how to trim and prune the trees, without charge, if some farmer would give the use of the land for the orchard. At the end of twenty years the orchard should belong to the owner of the land. The late Lester B. Dickinson, always a progressive farmer, offered a part of his field across the road from his house. The orchard was set out. Other farmers came to look on and learn. They went home and set out orchards

for themselves. They learned how to prune them scientifically. Soon nearly every farmer had a bearing orchard and now it is not uncommon for a single farmer to raise 3000 to 6000 bushels of apples in a year. Granville has come to be one of the greatest apple growing towns in western Massachusetts. The soil seems to be just fitted for that fruit, and no better flavored fruit is grown anywhere in the country.

In November 1929 the apple growers of Granville held the first Granville Apple Show, being the first town show in Hampden County. It has been an annual event ever since. The principal varieties grown are Baldwin, Greening, Northern Spy, McIntosh, Roxbury Russett, Wealthy, King, Delicious and Wolf River.

Apple growers in Granville are now well-to-do farmers, and it is chiefly due to the Hampden County Improvement League.

Mention should be made of the artificial lake created by the late Ralph B. Cooley. About a mile south of Granville village and just east of the road to Granby, there was formerly a swampy area through which meandered a tiny trout stream. Mr. Cooley was an enthusiastic sportsman and he conceived the idea of turning that particular bit of unattractive land into a beauty spot. He must have had in mind a miniature of some of the beautiful lakes in Maine where he had fished and around which he had hunted. So in 1896 he purchased this swamp, the largest part of which he secured from the late Miles J. Rose, and some of the surrounding land, and started to make his dream come true. He engaged a large force of Italian laborers who grubbed out the bushes, cleaned off the top soil and built a dam where the waters of the swamp naturally collected into a small brook. The result was the present beautiful forest-bordered private lake.

Mr. Cooley then proceeded to provide for further enjoyment of this area. He stocked the lake with game fish and built a boat house and sportsman's lodge, which he furnished with all the necessary equipment for fishing and boating. He also built a summer cottage nearby where he spent most of his summers thereafter.

In common with other New England towns Granville has experienced the various improvements in the matter of lighting, from pine knots, whale oil and kerosene, until in 1926 electric lights came

to these hills. During the summer of that year a transmission line was built from Southwick to Granville. Many houses were wired for the lighting, and provision was made for street lights. In the evening of December first the subscribers were pleased to be surprised with a flood of artificial light, when the electric current was turned on to test the system. On December 6 the street lights began to function. From that date onward electricity for light and power has been available to all would be purchasers.

The Roads

THE story of Granville's roads is one of evolution. It is a far cry from the Indian trails of the days of Toto, which were more or less fit for pedestrian travel, to the highways of today, fit for the most speedy travel by automobiles. In the days of the Plantation, the only traffic was either on horseback or on foot, and bridle paths led from one dwelling to another. The location of the cabins determined the location and course of the travel. The paths dodged the trees, the rocks and the swampy places. There were no wagons, not even a chaise, so it mattered little how crooked the trail, nor how steep the side hill along which it led. It is reasonable to believe that the Indian trails were few, and quite possibly there was only one.

When Samuel Bancroft established himself by the side of the little brook in the northeast part of the town, he was not primarily interested in any trail except the one between his cabin and the village of Westfield. When the next settler came, *he* had to pick out his own path from Samuel Bancroft's to the place he had chosen for a home. So it went on, each settler going a bit farther into the woods and selecting for his road, the easiest place to travel to it. However, as more settlers appeared, the paths became wider and in some places straightened out somewhat, and then primitive vehicles began to appear; sleds and ox carts. Then there began to be concerted action for improving the highways. Finally farm wagons appeared as well as chaises. A large part of the early town votes had to do with the repair and laying out of roads.

The earliest route of travel in Bedford was in some measure the present road commonly spoken of as the Old Road to Westfield, which ran through Hooppole to Jockey Corners, then westerly up the hill to East Granville, and on to Middle Granville and West Granville. This road did not pass through the Narrows, as at present, but at the foot of the hill just westerly from the West Parish filter beds of the Springfield water department, it kept farther to the east and south, and ran over a high part of the hill and

then down through what is now the bed of the Granville Reservoir of the Westfield water department and came out into the present road at the place where Peter Hendricksen formerly lived. All this portion of the ancient road has long since been discontinued, and the road used in its present layout.

It was not long before other roads were needed and were laid out. One of the next was the road to Southwick, as it was called after Southwick came into being. This was made so that Bedford could have a way to get to Suffield. This road was not the one through the Notch, now usually designated as the road to Southwick. It began at the Old Westfield Road, went out across the Plain past the new brick Village School building, then it followed the present Sodom Street going on easterly and down the steep slope of Sodom Mountain. The road from East Granville to Blandford was another early one, as well as the road from Middle Granville to Loudon (now Otis). Then came the road from Jockey Corners (now the village of Granville) to Granby, Connecticut; South Lane; the road to Hartland Hollow; North Lane (West Granville); the Wildcat road; Tice Hollow road; and many others which have since been discontinued. The layouts of many of these old highways are recorded in the Town records. However, it is now very difficult to recognize them because they are usually designated as beginning at some house or barn, the owner of which has been dead so long, the buildings now non-existent, and the land owned so many decades by others, that it is a very intricate task to determine exactly where they were. Another factor which adds to the difficulty is this: distinguishing points in the layout are very generally some tree, or even the stump of a tree, all signs of which have long since vanished. An antiquarian with plenty of time and patience could work it out, but by comparison a modern jig saw puzzle is simplicity.

The District of Granville, however, received some help with its roads, for it was not so many years before the County came to its relief and expended considerable money for the improvement and upkeep of the main east and west road running from Westfield through East, Middle and West Granville and thence to Loudon, so that this was for many years called the County Road. After a

time the County support came to an end, but the name stuck for several decades.

It may be recalled (p. 39) that one of the first moves toward better roads was made by the Plantation in 1750 when, at a meeting of the inhabitants, the entire settled area in this region was divided into three sections, as follows:

Voted "To divide the District and money that the Inhabitants granted for mending highways in the current year in said Bedford, and by said vote of said Inhabitants as to the District (sic) that part of the town which is under the care and charge of Mr. Dan Robinson Beginneth at the crossing said Township North and South by the dwelling house of Lieut. Daniel Brown in said Bedford and all the inhabitants west of said road are by said vote under the said Robinson as one of the Committee chosen by said inhabitants to mend highways in said Bedford as also the money arising on the settling Lands lying west of the Great Valley notwithstanding the owners of said Lands live on the East part of said Township as also the money arising on the settling Land on said west part if the owners are not in said Bedford to be to the benefit of said west part without any exception but only that Lieut. Brown and Jeremiah Griswold personally belong to the other District.

2nd Division belonging to Justus Rose that is to say all the inhabitants south of the Road East and West through Bedford from Lieut. Browns to Bedford East Line formerly to belong to Justus Rose's District.

(3rd) Division belonging to Nath^l District, that is to say (all the) Inhabitants East of the Road crossing said Township North and South by Lt. Brown's and north of the now travelling East and West Road threw said Bedford."

The other of said two votes is as follows:

Voted "That the inhabitants will be at cost of laying out the roads in said Bedford"

In as much as part of the record of this meeting is lost, it is quite impossible to learn just how this "cost of laying out the roads" was managed.

This policy of having one man to attend to and care for the roads in a definite area in town was followed for nearly 150 years, until the coming of improved road making machinery. When a section came to have more roads than one man could conveniently look after, the section was simply divided into two. So in time there

came to be many highway districts, laid out according to no definite, orderly plan, but entirely in view of the convenience or expediency of the particular situation to be dealt with. The title of the committee which had charge of the upkeep of the roads was changed after a time to that of Highway Surveyors. These officers were chosen at the annual town meetings to serve for one year. They received from the Selectmen a list of the assessments levied for the maintenance of the roads in their respective areas, together with their authority to collect the highway tax. This particular phase of the procedure is most clearly set forth in the warrants issued to these highway officials. A copy of one such warrant is as follows:—
Hampden, ss.

To Miles J. Rose, a Highway Surveyor of the Town of Granville, in the County of Hampden, GREETING:—

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are required to collect of the several persons named in the list herewith committed to you, each one his respective proportion therein set down, of the sum of two thousand dollars voted by the inhabitants of said town on the ninth day of March last, for repairing the highways, town ways and bridges in said town, you first having given reasonable notice to each person herein named, of the sum he is assessed to highways and town ways, and also seven days notice of the times and places you may appoint for providing materials and working on the highways and town ways within the limits assigned to you by the Selectmen for the present year.

You are to allow the several persons for work and labor according to the vote of the town, as follows, to wit:— For all work done before the first day of July next twenty-five cents per hour for each man; twenty-five cents per hour for each team suitable to plough and scrape on the road; fifty cents per day for each plough, each scraper and each cart; and for all work done after the first of July next, you are to allow fifteen cents per hour for each man; and fifteen cents per hour for each team suitable to plough and scrape.

You are to cause two thirds of said sum at least to be expended as aforesaid on or before the first day of July next.

And you are to exhibit this warrant, with your doings thereon, to the Selectmen on the first Monday of July next, and also at the expiration of your term of office, and at those times respectively, to render an account of all moneys by you expended on the highways and town ways.

You are also to complete and make up an account of your collec-

tions of the whole sum on or before the first day of March, eighteen hundred and seventy.

And if any person shall refuse or neglect, upon demand by you made, to pay the sum he is assessed in said list, you are to distrain the goods of such person to the value thereof, and the goods so distrained to keep at the expense of the owner for the space of four days, at the least, and to sell the same within seven days after the seizure, by public auction for the payment of the tax and the charges of keeping and of the sale; first giving notice of such sale by posting up a notification thereof in some public place in the town forty-eight hours at least before the sale.

If the distress shall be sold for more than the tax and the charges of keeping the same and making the sale, you are to return the surplus to the owner, on demand, with an account in writing of the sale and charges.

If any person shall refuse or neglect within fourteen days, after demand thereof made, to pay his tax and you cannot find sufficient goods upon which it may be levied, besides tools or implements necessary for his trade or occupation, beasts of the plough necessary for the cultivation of his improved lands, military arms, utensils for housekeeping necessary for upholding life, and bedding, and apparel necessary for himself and family, you are to take the body of such person and commit him to prison, there to remain until he shall pay the tax and charges of commitment and imprisonment, or be otherwise discharged by order of law.

(Then follows the date and signature of the Selectmen.)

This order of things worked very well when they repaired the roads with crow-bar, shovel, plow and scraper, and every one could bring his tools with him for use while working out his tax.

It was with these tools and under such conditions that the road across the Great Valley was built in 1843, a job of no mean proportions. But with the introduction of specially designed road making machinery, each highway district could not afford to buy a machine costing several hundred dollars, so the system of caring for the highways had to be changed. The Highway Surveyors were discarded and generally one person was chosen to have sole charge of all the roads in town. The Town purchased a "road machine," as it was called, which was to be, and was, used on all the town roads. This was an improvement over the old system, and it resulted in better roads.

The Revolution brought the necessity for better roads, for carriages and light wagons were no longer uncommon, and the era of the turnpikes came. In all the New England states corporations were created by the various legislatures, giving Turnpike Companies the right to lay out, construct and maintain roads for public travel. Their compensation was to be by fees paid by those who travelled on these roads. They were toll-roads.

The urge for a turnpike did not strike Granville until the beginning of the nineteenth century, when toll roads had come into existence quite generally all over New England. Massachusetts had already granted charters to ten or more such corporations and some of the progressive men in Granville and Blandford thought it would facilitate travel and help everyone if a good road could be had from the Granby Turnpike in Connecticut, with its direct connection to Hartford, to the main turnpike running westerly from Springfield to Albany. So a bill was introduced into the General Court for a turnpike company to build and operate such a road. This bill was passed by the House and Senate and signed by the Governor and became a law June 19, 1801. This act of the Legislature is of much interest for several reasons, and it is inserted here substantially complete, for the information it contains.

Whereas the highway leading from the south line of Massachusetts through the East Parish of the Town of Granville and through the Towns of Blandford and Becket, untill it comes to the turnpike road laid out by the Eighth Massachusetts Turnpike Corporation north of the meeting house in said Becket, *is rocky and mountainous*, and the expense of straightening, making and repairing the same through said Towns so that the same may be a good carriage road, is greater than reasonably ought to be required of said Towns,

Sec. 1. Be it therefore enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, That Ezra Marvin, Elihu Stow, Enoch Bancroft, William Cooley, William Cooley, Jr., Clark Cooley, David Jones, Samuel Bancroft, Jesse Munson, Amos Root, Lee Tinker, Jesse Spelman, Thomas Gillit, Azariah Bancroft, Zadock Cooley, Roswell Rowley, Abner Warner, Nathan Bates, Oliver Dickinson, Israel Parsons, Timothy Spelman, Martin Moses, Charles Spelman, Asa Seymour, Eli Gibbons, James Coe, Oliver Coe, Samuel Thrall, Bethuel Jones, Joel Root, Jonathan Barlow, Daniel Cooley, James Barlow, Rich-

ard Dickinson (and others from Blandford) were constituted a corporation by the name of The Eleventh Massachusetts Turnpike Corporation for the purpose of laying out & making a turnpike road, to begin at the south line of Massachusetts, at or near the ending of a turnpike road lately established by the Legislature of the State of Connecticut from the City of Hartford to said south line of Massachusetts, thence into and through the east parish of Granville to Blandford meeting house and from thence to the Eighth Massachusetts Turnpike in Becket. And "when completed as far as Blandford meeting house, could erect one toll gate" in such place on the road so made and completed as the Committee appointed by the Court of General Sessions of the Peace for the County of Hampshire shall judge most convenient for the collection of toll.

Sec. 2 concerned itself with the rates of toll, fixing the amount to be paid by the various classes which might have occasion to use the road, vehicles of sundry kinds, animals, pedestrians. The first item on the list will serve as a sample: "For every Coach, Phaeton, Chariot, or other four-wheeled carriage drawn by two horses 25 cts." The penalty for evading the toll was a fine of not more than \$40.00 nor less than \$2.00.*

The good citizens of Granville had every reason to expect a good road from the state line to Jockey Corners, East Granville and up North Lane past the Pilgrims Rest (the Stow tavern), over Beech Hill and thence to Blandford meeting house. But there is many a slip. The Corporation obtained a slight change in its charter in 1802, and then proceeded to lay out its road, which layout was accepted by the Committee appointed by the Court and damages were awarded to those whose lands were taken, but here it ran into difficulty. It should have been expected. It was the same thing which bothered, and now bothers most such enterprises. Money. The Corporation needed money to pay for the construction of its road. None of the towns through which the road was to run was wealthy, nor even well-to-do. It was a farming community in a hill country. They did not have the cash, and the devious ways of modern high finance were then unfamiliar and untrodden by rural financiers. So the plan just died, from lack of money. It passed into the limbo of good intentions.

* Massachusetts Laws and Resolves, 1800-1801, page 294.

There were a few, however, who were not willing to give up the ship without a struggle. A new start was made and on June 20, 1809, another charter was granted to "Justus Rose and such others as may be or may become associated with him," constituting them a corporation by the name of The Granville Turnpike Corporation. It was granted all the powers formerly given to the Eleventh Massachusetts Turnpike Corporation, and was to follow the same route and direction as the Eleventh, and have the same layout, until it intersected a County Road near the house of Jedediah Smith, Esq., which was in Blandford. It was to have one toll gate at or near the dwelling house of Justus Rose, and it was to have the same rates of toll and be protected by the same penalties. See Massachusetts Laws and Resolves, 1809-1812, page 38. On February 22, 1812, the Granville company secured from the General Court a modification of its charter, reducing the required width of its road from twenty-four feet to eighteen feet. This might have been of some help, but the same old bogie was in the way, and so far as can be discovered, nothing whatever was done, there being no records, or returns, found either in the State or County offices. Clearly nothing had been done prior to 1812. Although the scheme of a turnpike road failed, there is now a road over the entire distance which this turnpike was planned to cover in the Town of Granville.

It would seem that there was a considerable undercurrent of rivalry between the East Parish and the Middle Parish over this turnpike affair, because sundry men of the Middle Parish also had a bill before the same session of the General Court for a turnpike road through *their* village. This bill too, was passed by the Senate and House and was signed by the Governor and became a law on the same day as the bill incorporating the Eleventh. This charter is interesting for what it tells.

Whereas the road leading from the Line of the State of Connecticut near Holmes Mills in Hartland, in the County of Hartford, to Loudon, in the County of Berkshire, is circuitous, rocky and mountainous and there is much Travelling over the same and the expense of straightening, making and repairing a road through the Middle Parish in Granville, the west part of Blandford and Loudon, so that the same may be safe and convenient for Travellers with Horses and Carriages, would be much greater than ought to be

required of the proprietors and Inhabitants on said Road under their present circumstances,

Sec. 1. Be it therefore Enacted That John Phelps, Levi Curtiss, Stephen Stow, Nathan Curtiss, Thaddeus Squires, Rufus Harvey, Abijah Knapp, Luther Hayes, Isaac Snow, Luther Coe, Moses Parsons, Ephraim Coe, Charles Curtiss, Linus Curtiss, David Curtiss, Rufus Rose, Enoch Johnson, Enoch Coe (and others from Blandford and Loudon) shall be a Corporation by the name of The Thirteenth Massachusetts Turnpike Corporation for the purpose of laying out and making a Turnpike Road from the line of the State of Connecticut near Holmes' Mill, by the Meeting house in the Middle Parish in Granville to the north Westerly part of the Town of Loudon, in the County of Berkshire, and when said Turnpike Road shall be sufficiently made and shall be allowed and approved by the Justices of the Court of Sessions of the County of Hampshire, at any term thereof, then said corporation shall be authorized to erect turnpike Gates on the same in such manner as shall be necessary and convenient"

The rates of toll were a little higher than those fixed for the Eleventh, being 30 cts. for a Coach, Phaeton or Chariot, etc. The first meeting of the corporation was to be held at the house of Linus Bates, innholder, in Granville on the first Monday in the following August, to choose officers and do any necessary business. The penalty for evading toll was the same as for the Eleventh. The turnpike was to be "not less than four rods wide, and the travelled part not less than eighteen feet in width in any Place Excepting Steep side Hills, and there the said Road shall be of sufficient width for Carriages and Teams of all kinds to pass each other."

This law is more skillfully drawn than the law establishing the Eleventh, and doubtless it was done by the practiced hand of John Phelps. But whatever the motive which prompted it, or however skillfully it was drafted, it came to shipwreck on the same rocks as the Eleventh. Without money the road could not be built, and money it did not have and was not able to get. There is no record that anything was ever done under this chapter.

Yet another turnpike was planned to serve this town on the Granville hills. This one was to run from West Springfield to Sheffield. The turnpike fever took a firm hold upon the imaginations of these hill people. Again the locally influential men sponsored the enterprise. Timothy Robinson, Titus Fowler, John Phelps, Nathaniel

Bates, Enoch Bancroft, Oliver Dickinson, Moses Parsons, Israel Parsons, Ezra Baldwin, Peras (probably Perez) Marshall, Jr., Stephen Dodge, Chauncey B. Fowler, William Moore, Ephraim A. Judson, William Granger, Drake Mills, Elijah Deming, and eighteen others from other towns were the incorporators of The Sixteenth Massachusetts Turnpike Corporation. The route over which they were authorized to construct a turnpike was as follows: "beginning at the west line of West Springfield about seventy rods eastward of Moses Hayes Jr's, dwelling in Southwick, thence westward *in the most convenient route* to Edmund Barlow's dwelling house in Granville, thence westward *in the most convenient route* to Middle Granville and the West Parish meeting house in said Granville, thence *in the most convenient route* to the dwelling house of Sanford Brown in Sandisfield" and thence on through Sandisfield, past the meeting house in that town to connect with the turnpike from Hartford, Connecticut, to Hudson, New York, "near the meeting house in Sheffield." The road was to be eighteen feet wide with railings where necessary, and there were to be two toll gates in Hampshire County and two in Berkshire County. The rates of toll were for each coach, phaeton, chariot, or any four wheeled carriages drawn by two horses 25 cents and four cents for each additional horse. Other tolls were similar to those fixed for the Eleventh. The first meeting of the corporation was to be held at the dwelling house of Titus Fowler. The road must be completed within five years from the passage of the act of incorporation, otherwise the charter was to be void. The act was approved by the Governor February 14, 1803.*

The charter of the Sixteenth was more liberal than the charters of the Eleventh and Thirteenth in that the corporation could within certain limits, choose the most convenient route between certain points. However, the privilege of selecting the exact location for the turnpike did not produce the necessary funds for construction. This corporation was soon stranded on the same financial rocks which had wrecked the Eleventh and Thirteenth. Nothing seems to have been done toward construction and such records of meetings, surveys, etc. as may have been made, are either lost or reposing

* Massachusetts Acts and Resolves, 1802-1803, page 123.

innocuously in some unfrequented attic. But hope died hard. Application was made to the General Court for an extension of time within which to complete the road, and the time limit was extended two years from February 14, 1811.* But it was futile. The Sixteenth was as dead as the Eleventh and Thirteenth.

Hill dwellers are not quitters and there were men living in Granville and Tolland who really wanted a turnpike road. Another effort was made by a few who would not admit failure. These quixotic few were Gad Hamilton, Allen Bidwell, Jonathan Hamilton and Perry Babcock, who were incorporated as the Granville and Tolland Turnpike Corporation and authorized to build an eighteen-foot road over the route formerly granted to the Sixteenth. This act was approved by the Governor June 13, 1814.†

That was the end. There is no further record. Farmers are not financiers. The pattern of the Eleventh had been followed to the letter, and Granville was destined not to have a turnpike road. Transportation over the hills continued to be laborious for nearly another hundred years until it was revolutionized by the automobile.

Granville, like many other towns, could not get through the period of passing from poor to better roads without an excursion or two into the realm of theory. When the system of highway districts and highway surveyors was abandoned, and one person was at the head of the road work for the whole town, it was the fashion to designate him as Road Commissioner. Having a single head for that department of the public business worked out very well, but in 1880, whether it was thought that if one Commissioner was good, more would be better, or whether someone besides the incumbent wanted the job, or for some other reason, three were elected. One for three years, one for two years and one for one year. Theoretically that was fine, but one year of it was enough. The next year they went back to the single Commissioner, without regard to any rights of the second and third Commissioners. Someone, however, could not get away from this idea, for in 1891 it was tried again. This time one Overseer of Roads was elected for each Parish. But two did not work any better than three, so finally the theorists subsided, much to the benefit of the Town.

* 5 Laws of Massachusetts 307.

† 6 Laws of Massachusetts 503.

In this same year (1891), it is interesting to note, the Town voted to purchase oxen to be used in working the highways. In less than 40 years the Town has passed from the slowest motive power to the fastest; from oxen to tractor.

In 1893 Granville tried another experiment. At the annual Town meeting it was voted to let the maintenance of the highways for the ensuing year to the lowest bidder and require him to give bond for the faithful performance of his contract. Whether this plan worked well or not, does not appear, but it seems likely that it did not because it was not followed long. It may well be that this plan developed as a result of the building of the road down through the notch, which was done in 1892.

The building of this road had been in mind for over thirty years. It was agitated before the Civil War, and at a special Town meeting October 2, 1861, a Committee was chosen to confer with the County Commissioners about a road through the Notch. The Commissioners looked the territory over and decided it ought to be built. A map was made of the proposed layout, which was filed in Granville early in 1862. It was to extend from a point on the road to Southwick near the house now occupied by Richard G. Dickinson, down through the notch, or gorge, where the Dickinson Brook, and further on the Munn Brook, flows, to Loomis Street in the Town of Southwick, a distance of something over two miles. It was a task of considerable magnitude to undertake when oxen were the motive power and all the excavating and filling had to be done by hand. The layout was approved and the construction ordered to be done.

By this time the Civil War had been in progress long enough to make it evident that it was going to be a long struggle, and a costly one, so the Town voted in 1862 to ask the County Commissioners to suspend the building of the road "for the present." This the Commissioners did, and the plans for the road were indefinitely laid aside. When that happens to any one's plans it is entirely uncertain when, if ever, they will be taken up again.

Then came the dreary, weary years of the War. After the War came depression, failures, panic. Everyone, particularly farmers, had difficulty in eking out a living. The result was that the plans for the new road lay unmolested in their pigeon-hole thirty years.

At last, in May 1892, the Town voted to proceed with the construction and build the road through the notch by contract. After considerable official red tape was surmounted, a contract was made with Horace I. Simmons, of Pittsfield for the job and a satisfactory bond filed with the Town. The construction work was begun promptly and pushed along as rapidly as could be expected under the circumstances. Much of the way it was necessary to cut back into a ledge. This was done by blasting, and the drilling was all done by hand and the explosive used was the so-called "blasting powder," a coarse black powder which was exploded by means of a fuse. Before this road was built it was possible to pass up or down through this defile over a narrow, crooked road on either side of the brook, but these roads were poor and ill kept. In fact they were more like rabbit tracks than highways, but the present road is one of the scenic highways of western Massachusetts.

The late Lester B. Dickinson told the writer that he was employed on this project and that he worked with a pair of his oxen ten hours a day and six days a week, and was glad to do it for \$20.00 a week. He also related an incident which occurred to his oxen while working on this road at that time. The spot where it happened is a short distance east of the Granville-Southwick town line where the descent from the road to the brook is very steep and the drop is about sixty feet. His oxen were being used to haul a rather large log from one point to another past this steep place. They were left standing hitched to the log, while the driver, a young man, prudently went forward to see how about getting by such a bad spot. Another workman, for many years a resident of Granville, but now dead, remarked that that was not such a bad place and picking up the whip started to drive the oxen past it. The oxen started when spoken to, but the log in some way rolled over the bank at the point where the bank was steepest and pulled the oxen after it. Down they went, log and oxen, clear to the bottom, for there was no other stopping place. Once the log was over the brink, nothing could be done to prevent the accident and the onlookers gazed in horror, expecting the oxen to be killed or so maimed that it would be necessary to have them killed. But to everyone's amazement there was no apparent damage done to the oxen except a small scratch on one of them.

They were unyoked and driven out of the gorge and were on the job the next day apparently none the worse for their experience.

Although this road has been in use for more than forty years, it is still called the "new road to Westfield" by the local inhabitants. Well, it is new when compared to the Old Road to Westfield, which has been in use about two hundred years.

With the coming into common use of the automobile, there also came the demand for better roads on which to use them. To meet this need Granville received assistance from the State and County. For some years this assistance was used in grading, draining and putting gravel on the surface of the principal highways, but later the New Road was widened and paved with macadam, and thereafter a hard surface was made on the old County Road from Granville village to the Tolland line. Thus the dream of the sponsors of The Eleventh Massachusetts Turnpike Company began to come true. That part of their projected Turnpike from Jockey Corners to East Granville was a hard surfaced road. In 1932 paving that part of their Turnpike from the State line at the end of the Granby Turnpike was begun and it was finished as far as Granville village in 1934. It is hoped that ere many years the remainder of the Eleventh will also be paved, and the dreams of our forefathers will have been realized.

To give an idea of the magnitude and importance of the roads in Granville it is only necessary to recall that in 1935 the Town appropriated for road work \$16,370.87, and in addition to that the Town received from the State and County for general highway purposes and permanent road work (new construction) the further sum of \$18,600.00.

Closely allied to the roads and turnpikes was one phase of the transportation maintained upon them: the travel by stage coaches. These were the only public conveyances prior to the railroads, and for hill towns like Granville, stages long remained. Granville had service by stage lines ever since the establishment of our independence, and most probably before that time as well. In the earliest years of the nineteenth century there was one line running from Westfield through East Granville, Middle Granville, West Granville, New Boston to Sandisfield. Considerable light on this line in

its later days is shed by a letter of Edwin C. Gibbons written in Granville July 12, 1857, wherein he says: "Mr. Underhill drives stage from Westfield to Sandisfield. He leaves Granville and goes to Westfield and back every day and to Sandisfield one day and back the next." Later this stage was driven by Bidwell and Harrison. Still later it went from Westfield only as far as Tolland, and after that there were two routes to cover this distance: one from Westfield to Granville and one from Granville to Tolland. Many of those now living in Granville can readily recall that Burt J. Roberts drove the former and "Ed. L." Holcomb drove the latter. Both of these stages carried passengers as well as freight and mail.

Another of the important stage lines went from Hartford, Connecticut, through Jockey Corners to Blandford, and thence to Albany, New York. The route of this stage was through Bloomfield, Tariffville, Granby, North Granby, Jockey Corners, East Granville to Blandford. The fare from Hartford to East Granville was one dollar. In 1845 this stage was driven by Denslow, leaving the Eagle Hotel in Hartford every Wednesday and Saturday at seven o'clock in the morning and arriving in East Granville about one o'clock in the afternoon. The return trip from Blandford to Hartford was made every Tuesday and Friday, starting at the same hour in the morning. In 1851 this stage was driven by W. E. Boies and started its trips one hour later. The running time remained the same. This through service seems to have been discontinued about 1856, but daily service to the south was maintained from Granville as far as Granby for thirty or more years thereafter. Eventually, however, the line was discontinued.

In 1841 the stage line in operation between Hartford and West Granville passed over the following route: leaving the Eagle Tavern in Hartford at seven o'clock in the morning, going through Bloomfield, Simsbury, West Granby, East Hartland to West Granville. The fare between Hartford and West Granville was one dollar and twenty-five cents, and the trip was made in about six hours. This stage ran twice a week each way, leaving West Granville on Mondays and Fridays, and leaving Hartford Tuesdays and Saturdays. This schedule was maintained until 1848 when the time of leaving Hartford was fixed at eight o'clock instead of seven

o'clock. In 1852 George W. Shepard and W. S. Treat were the proprietors of this line, but the next year Mr. Treat seems to have had sole control. In 1854 the leaving time advanced a quarter of an hour. In 1855 the line was operated by Mr. P. B. Coe, then Mr. Shepard had it until about 1860 when it seems to have been discontinued, at least so far as West Granville was concerned.

So it can be seen that Granville had very good transportation service before the advent of the railroads. However, as might be expected, this service declined with the decreasing population in the hill towns and the coming of much speedier means of travel. With the coming of automobiles into common use, the stage business has practically disappeared, and Granville now has no public conveyance service, but the U. S. mail is brought twice daily to Granville, and a large part of the town is served by rural free delivery.

The Churches

The First Church

AT the time when settlers came first to Bedford, the maintenance of a church and minister in any community in the Province of the Massachusetts Bay was a duty required by law. This duty seems to have been considered most important of all, for a church must be maintained, even before the community was allowed any political powers. It was a condition of its very existence.

It will be recalled that the proprietors of Bedford, in response to their petition in 1737 to have the title to their land confirmed, were by the General Court subjected to the condition that they "do within the term of Three years from the end of the present session of this Court" build a total of seventy houses of specified dimensions; have that number of families settled there; have a required number of acres seeded to English grass; "and also do within said time build a Meeting House for the public worship of God and settle a learned Orthodox Minister."

In accordance with the above terms of the General Court's requirements, the erection of a suitable Meeting House was forthwith begun, and we find in the proprietor's deed to Rev. Moses Tuttle dated February 25, 1747/8, after describing the one hundred acres of land conveyed to him as the first settled minister in Bedford, the following: "Together with the House built thereon for the Present Meeting House, only Reserving Liberty for the Inhabitants to meet in the same *until the Other Meeting House intended to be built* shall be compleated." What its size was and where it stood cannot now be exactly determined, but the fact remains that there was a meeting house in Bedford as early as February 25, 1747/8, and it had been built after January 9, 1738/9. The tradition seems to be firmly established that it stood on the "Great Rock" (or ledge) at the northwest corner of the main road from East Granville to West Granville and the road to Blandford, but there is no known evidence to prove this to be a fact.

As the number of settlers increased, efforts were made to secure

a minister in order to comply with that portion of the condition imposed by the General Court, and after a time success was assured. A call was extended to Moses Tuttle, of New Haven, Connecticut, and he decided to cast in his lot with the little group of pioneers in Bedford.

Moses Tuttle was the sixth and youngest child of John and Hannah (Johnson) Tuttle, of New Haven, Connecticut, where he was born June 25, 1715. In his boyhood he went to sea and later married his first wife and probably lived in New Haven. He attended Yale College and graduated in the class of 1745, at the age of thirty. After his graduation he taught in the Hopkins Grammar School in New Haven, where he was teaching when called to take charge of the church in Bedford. This call was probably received by him in 1746 and he was not then ordained. Steps were taken directly for his ordination which occurred in January, 1746/7. Apparently he left his school teaching and went immediately to Bedford where he was active in organizing the First Church of Christ. No list of the original membership is now extant, so far as is known. That he began to preach in Bedford before he was ordained, appears from a receipt for salary signed by him as follows:

Bedford, April 15th, 1751.

Then Received of the (Inhabitants) of s^d Bedford by the hand of Mr. Daniel Brown and Mr. Phineas Pratt, Treasurers, the sum of Eight Hundred and Sixty three pounds Eight Shillings, old tenor, in full for two years salary, viz: the year 1748 and 1749, and for *preaching before Ordination*.

Samuel Church
David Rose

pr. me Moses Tuttle

From this it seems that the minister's salary was not paid very promptly or else that a receipt for the payment was not given very promptly, and further, as we look back upon the condition of a pioneer settlement, it seems now that the salary was a very generous one.

About this time he married for his second wife, Martha Edwards, the youngest sister of Jonathan Edwards, the famous preacher at Northampton. This marriage took place, according to Jonathan Edwards' will, at some time after September 1749.

Among other things in which Mr. Tuttle interested himself, was improving conditions for public worship. As early as February 25, 1748/9 it was planned to build a larger, better and more convenient meeting house. The first meeting house was becoming too small to hold the congregation, and at some time prior to December 1750, it "was by the Providence of God consumed by fire," so that the "other Meeting House intended to be built" must now become an actuality.

The project of a larger and more commodious house of worship the young minister pushed along and on December 20, 1750, it was so far completed that it was "enclosed so as the Inhabitants have mett in the same of Lords Days."

It seems reasonable to believe that the first and second meeting houses were not very far apart, because they were both built on Mr. Tuttle's one hundred acres, and we know that the second meeting house was built on the north side of the main east and west road through the town, which was later called the County Road, and which is now the principal highway between Granville and West Granville. It stood on a plot of land which was ten rods long from east to west and eight rods deep. The southwest corner of this plot was twenty rods easterly from the east line of land formerly owned by August Bechmann, said east line being an old stone wall. A chestnut tree, unfortunately a very common landmark in those days, stood at the southeast corner of the plot, and the southeast corner of the meeting house was about five rods northwest from that chestnut tree. This locates the site of the second meeting house on land lately owned by Morris Regan and a very short distance east of the road leading to the Barnard farm and South Lane. Traditionally it was "near the Big Rock," a few feet west of Regan Road, which was then the principal road to Blandford. A site near the junction of these roads was as nearly central as could be had in the area then settled. The fact that the second meeting house stood on Mr. Tuttle's land was to lead into difficulties later.

It is not easy for us of today to realize how much of a religious cast the affairs of a pioneer community in Massachusetts bore in the middle of the eighteenth century. The Congregational form of the Protestant belief was the established religion in New England.

When a settlement wanted to be set apart and have its own minister and meeting house, it was necessary to go to the legislature for permission to establish a new parish. This being the prevailing social condition, it is entirely normal to find a large part of the Town votes to have been concerned with the church and church affairs. In that regard Bedford and its inhabitants were no different from other settlements and settlers. Repeatedly Town votes appear choosing a committee to "state the minister's salary," and more frequently than otherwise, a certain portion, or all, of such salary might be paid in grain or other produce.

At least one such agreement as to Rev. Mr. Tuttle's salary has come down to us. It is the result of a vote passed at a meeting of the inhabitants held December 2, 1751, when Phineas Pratt, Samuel Bancroft and Stephen Hickox were chosen "to state the Rev. Mr. Tuttle's Salary the present year." The salary was "stated" as appears in a document, or agreement, as follows:

December 13th, 1751.

We, the subscribers, being a Committee appointed by the Inhabitants of Bedford to agree with Rev. Mr. Tuttle with respect to grain he is to receive for his salary for the present year, have accordingly agreed that the said salary be paid in grain, as followeth, that is to say:

Wheat at 3s. 5d. per Bushel	£ 0. 3. 5.
Rye at 2s. 4d. " "	0. 2. 4.
Indian Corn 1s. 8d. " "	0. 1. 8.

To the value of Thirty Six pounds nineteen Shillings and ten pence. £ 36. 19. 10.

Witness our hands

Phineas Pratt }
Stephen Hickox } Com^{tee}.

Moses Tuttle

Whether the above sum of £ 36. 19. 10. was the entire amount of Mr. Tuttle's salary for the year 1751, or whether it was all that he was bound to receive in kind, is not at all clear, but the wording of the agreement inclines one to the idea that it was his entire salary. If this is correct, it may be one of the causes for the increasing friction between preacher and flock.

About this time the question of ownership of the meeting house and lot came up and some, perhaps many, of the inhabitants thought

the title thereto should be conveyed by Mr. Tuttle to the inhabitants. This Mr. Tuttle appears to have been loath to do. At last a deed was prepared for him to sign, but whether of his own free will or by the inhabitants, can not now be discovered. At any rate the deed was dated August 7, 1751, although it was not signed for more than two years thereafter, during which time the difficulties between pastor and people increased rather than diminished.

The next votes of the inhabitants which indicate the widening of the breach were passed at a meeting held March 12, 1753, which are as follows: Voted that "Phineas Pratt, John Spelman and Ephraim Munson make up with Mr. Tuttle as to his salary the year past and *Six Sabbaths this present year.*" At that same meeting it was also voted that "Phineas Pratt, Samuel Bancroft and Benjamin Meeker (act) as a Committee to Treat with Mr. Tuttle as to his Settlement." Other votes taken at that meeting mention "counsel charges," so it would seem that Mr. Tuttle was through. He had not been paid in full for his services and he would not give up the title to the meeting house. He engaged an attorney to collect his bill. The inhabitants engaged another to tell them what to do. Their counsel appears to have been a Mr. Mills. Hostility was growing on each side of the controversy, for on July 30, 1753, another meeting of the inhabitants was held and it was voted to choose a committee to give "security to Mr. Tuttle or his Attorney" for the money due him. This committee was Phineas Pratt, Samuel Bancroft and Dan Robinson. Just what the security was which was to guarantee the payment of this just debt owed to Mr. Tuttle, or whether there was any given, is of small consequence. It appears that Mr. Tuttle shook the dust of Bedford from his feet and departed, never, so far as appears of record, to return. He went first to Simsbury, Connecticut, but whether before or after he got payment for his salary cannot be determined, probably before, because he was living in Simsbury before he conveyed the meeting house lot to the inhabitants. At a meeting of the inhabitants held October 26, 1753, among other votes passed are these: voted "they would not hire any more preaching after next Sabbath untill the first of March next." Also voted "that if any Minister should offer to give us a Sermon or Sermons they would be at the charge of his

support." Also "that the Committee Chosen to hire preaching should provide for the aforesaid Minister." Also "to allow Phineas Pratt for a Journey to Salmon (Brook) and money laid out for the Society in getting acknowledgement of a deed of *that Land on which the Meeting house stands*, the sum of Four Shillings." Also voted "that Mr. Phineas Pratt should get the Deed of that land on which the Meeting house stands upon Record"

So the trouble was settled. Mr. Pratt had gone after the deed which was executed October 11, 1753, and it was duly recorded in Hampshire Registry of Deeds in Volume X at page 147. It is as follows:

Know all men by These presents that I, Moses Tuttle, of a place called Bedford in the County of Hampshire in the Province of the Massachusetts Bay in new England, Clerk, for and in Consideration of five Shillings to me in hand paid by Daniel Brown and others, Inhabitants of s^d Bedford; Have Granted bargained sold Conveyed and Confirmed and I do by these presents fully and absolutely Convey and Confirm unto him the said Daniel Brown and Others their Heirs and assigns forever one half acre of land in Bedford aforesaid it being part of One Hundred acres conveyed to me the said Moses Tuttle by Josias Boyles and Cap. John Wendell s^d half acre of Land is bounded as followeth viz; beginning at a Chestnut tree marked Standing on the North Side of the road or Highway about five rods South East from the Meeting House, thence west ten rods Bounded South on s^d Highway, thence North Eight rods, thence East ten rods, thence South Eight rods to s^d Chestnut tree.

To Have and To Hold the above granted premises with the appurtenances to him the s^d Daniel Brown and Others Inhabitants of s^d Bedford their Heirs and assigns forever with all and Singular the profits privileges and Commodities hereby for my Self my Heirs Executors and administrators Covenanting and agreeing with the s^d Daniel Brown and others and with their Heirs and assigns that at and Untill the Ensealing of this Indenture I am Lawfully Seized of the premises in a good and absolute Estate In Fee Simple and I will the same to him and them in the Law forever Warrant Secure and Defend against the Lawfull Claims and Demands of any Person or persons whatsoever.

In Witness whereof I have hereunto Set my hand and Seal this Twenty Seventh Day of August Ano 1751.

Signed Sealed and Delivered
in Presence of

Ebenezer Seaward
Jonathan Rose

Moses Tuttle & Seal

In Simsbury In Hartford County on y^e 11th Day of October 1753 Then personally appeared the above named Moses Tuttle & acknowledged y^e foregoing Instrument to be his free Act & Deed

Before me Jos. Willcockson, Just. pac^s.

Rec^d. Novem^r. 22^d 1753 & Recorded from the Original.

Edw^d. Pynchon, Reg^r.

That part of Mr. Tuttle's life spent in Bedford was not without its thorns. His second wife was very difficult to get along with. His home was destroyed by fire, together with its furnishings. He had such trouble with his congregation that they had parted in hostilities. Yet it cannot be said that all his efforts had gone for naught. He had served a pioneer community six years and had built a larger and better meeting house than the one used when he went there, and so far as appears, the parish was not in debt.

After leaving Bedford he went to Kent County, Delaware, where he had a pastorate over a Presbyterian Church in 1756. Later he had another pastorate in Maryland and still later he came back to New England and lived in South Windsor, Connecticut, for a time. He had four children, all daughters, and died November 21, 1785, in Southold, Long Island.

So it came about that Bedford was without the services of a settled minister for over three years, and this interregnum came just at the crucial time when Bedford was passing out of the picture and Granville was appearing, but it must not be thought that the church or its affairs were out of mind or neglected any more than the religious turbulence then existing made necessary. Their religion, like the land they tilled, was stern and rock bound, and was too much a part of them to be laid aside or forgotten because of the absence of a regularly settled minister.

That the settlers were in a state of religious turmoil is clearly indicated by a vote of the inhabitants on April 15, 1754, when they voted that they would not choose a committee to secure a minister, but at the same meeting voted to raise five pounds, old tenor, for the support of the gospel, and that Jonathan Church should take care of the meeting house. It is also interesting to note that it was voted that he (Jonathan Church) should be paid one shilling for

care of the meeting house during the last year. It would seem that being a care taker of the meeting house was a labor of love and the chief compensation was the dignity of the position.

Another evidence of religious unrest in Bedford is the following excerpt from the church records. (The first four "rules" have been omitted as they state no new or pugnacious ideas.)

"Some General Rules agreed upon by a number of Chh members in Bedford in order for the gathering and setting up a Chh in Bedford

5th As for that that is called the half way Covenant we see no Scriptural warrant for it neither do we admit it into our Chh.

6th As for the Stodarian Principal we will have nothing to do with it.

7th We also agree and it is our opinion that the Power of Government is in the hands of the Chh as such and not in the Minister.

June 14th 1754.

The foregoing voted & accepted by s^d Chh."

The people of Bedford certainly knew where they stood in matters concerning religion. They were staunch followers of Edwards.

In the latter part of that year (1754) or early in 1755 the services of an orthodox minister were secured. A Mr. Cornelius Jones served the settlers for a few Sabbaths, and at a meeting of the inhabitants on May 5, 1755, a committee consisting of Samuel Wheeler, David Rose, Jr., and John Rose was chosen "to treat with Mr. Jones to preach six sabbaths more." This was accordingly done and Mr. Jones gave such satisfaction that we find the inhabitants on June 24th of that year voting to extend a call to him. For some reason negotiations lagged, perhaps on account of the financial side of the business, for on September 17th at another meeting it was voted to offer Mr. Jones £ 40 to settle here. In some way, however, it all came to naught, and the settlers got along in a hit or miss fashion until Mr. Jedediah Smith appeared, some time in 1756. Such was the attractiveness of Mr. Smith's personality that in a short time he was duly settled over the parish. The terms of his settlement appear to have been that he was to receive £ 100 upon settlement and £ 50 a year for his services and the parish would furnish him with fire wood "as long as he gets it within a mile of

his house," and it was voted that he be ordained on the first Wednesday in December 1756.

After the ordination of Mr. Smith, the District on December 20, 1756, voted "to make provision for seats and pews in the meeting house," and we can easily imagine the stir and flutter incident to setting the meeting house in order for the new pastor. But such a task moved slowly, for we find another vote on March 26, 1759, "that the meeting house be finished at the Town's cost," and yet another vote on July 24, 1760, "that the Town will finish the meeting house by putting seats in the side galleries." This is an eloquent tribute to the attractiveness of the Rev. Mr. Smith's preaching. So we may take it that the second meeting house was finished in 1760.

Whether some progressive member of the parish desired to introduce some new scheme or whether no one wished for the job of caring for the meeting house does not appear of record, but all doubts in that matter are cleared up by a vote at the annual District meeting March 19, 1764, that the Selectmen should have the care of the meeting house. Also keeping the meeting house in repair seems to have been a part of the duties of the Selectmen, for in the next year it was voted "to pay twelve shillings and six pence for 246 ft. of pine boards for seats in the lower part of the meeting house."

It has been said that coming events cast their shadows before them. There are times when this is so clear that it bars all difference of opinion. The growing population of Granville was not confined to any particular locality, unless it may have been that the west part of the District grew faster. In any event, there was soon heard the demand that not all the church services be held in the meeting house, but that a portion of them be held in other parts of the District.

An attempt had been made in 1766 to set off the west part of the District "as far east as Ore Hill Brook" into a separate town, which had come to nothing, but the proponents of that measure came to the annual meeting the next year determined to do or die, for hotly contested voting in Town meetings is nothing new in Granville. On March 16, 1767, it was voted "to raise £ 200 to build a meeting house near the Widow Ruth Hubbard's *now* dwelling house." The kind and gentle hand of the Rev. Jedediah shows its rare qualities

in keeping his flock together. Apparently the progressives had won the day and were all set to go, but they had reckoned without their host. In the first place £ 200 is quite a sum to raise, especially if opinion is divided. Then too, very likely some, if not most, of the District officers who had to do with raising and expending the public funds were lukewarm to the project, if not actually hostile to it. Then again, there was the Rev. Jedediah in the background. The result was that another District meeting was called and on December 14th the hasty vote of March 16th was rescinded. The race is not always to the swift.

It would seem that the Rev. Jedediah had a compromise ready when the time came for the next annual meeting, March 14, 1768, for it was then voted that "the Rev. J. Smith preach $\frac{1}{2}$ the time in the West part of the District and preach $\frac{1}{4}$ the time in Benjamin Barnes' house and preach $\frac{1}{4}$ the time in Joseph Clark's house." Thus appears the first intimation of the later division of the Town into three parishes.

A curious little incident occurred which indicates how determined some of his parishioners were in their feeling of hostility toward the Rev. Smith. It seems that a new baby had arrived in Granville and the household of Gerard Pratt was made glad. Of course the child must be baptized as soon as reasonably convenient. Mr. Pratt and his good wife did not like the doctrines of the Rev. Jedediah and they did not want their child to be baptized by him, so they took the baby to the Rev. John Ballantine, in Westfield, and requested him to perform the rite. In his diary, in which he relates this incident under date of July 3, 1768, he closes with this comment, brief and to the point: "I refused." It does not appear when, if ever, or by whom this child was baptized.

There was one duty in connection with the meeting house which did not devolve upon the Selectmen. This was seating the congregation, for in 1769 "seeters" were chosen "to seat the people in the meeting house."

By the latter part of 1770, the increasing friction in the church had reached a point where a District meeting on November 12, 1770, took it up as a matter of public concern, and it was voted "to call a Council to settle the differences in the church between

church, minister and town." Note the order of importance; church, minister, town. Again diplomacy quieted the factions and quenched the fire brands of discord. It seems to have been another victory for the Rev. Jedediah Smith who appears to have been able to put into practice the Scriptural teaching that a soft answer turneth away wrath.

The specter of another church in Granville would not die, and the progressives were on hand in force at the annual District meeting March 16, 1773, and took the conservatives by surprise. It was voted "to choose a committee to advise in the matter of another church." The make up of this committee is interesting. It consisted of

Benjamin Day, of Springfield	Luke Hitchcock, of Granville
Wm. Boys (Boise), of Blandford	Jonathan Tillotson, of Granville
John Owen, of Simsbury	John Rose, of Granville
Nathan Barlo, of Granville	Dan Robinson, of Granville
Ephraim Munson, of Granville	Joseph Miller, of Granville
Timothy Robinson, of Granville	Samuel Bancroft, of Granville

It will be noted that all the Granville members of this committee except Nathan Barlo and Samuel Bancroft were residents of Middle (now West) Granville, and they were the majority on the committee, seven to five. It may be easily forecast what the committee would report.

But all this strategy came to nothing. Packed meetings seem to have worked no better then than they do now. Another District meeting was called immediately and on April 30, 1773, the vote naming the above committee was rescinded, and it was voted "to do nothing in the matter, *nor allow anything to be done.*" Here is where the conservatives got out their steam roller and proceeded to flatten out their opponents. This, too, is a policy of questionable wisdom.

The next year another tack was tried. Again it was proposed to divide the District and a committee different from the one appointed in 1766 was named. This one, however, made no more progress than the earlier one had made. By this time the Revolution was on the horizon and the church scrappers in Granville patriotically

dropped their petty bickerings and turned their attention to larger things.

Rev. Jedediah Smith was born in Suffield, Connecticut, in 1726, and was the eldest of ten children born to Ebenezer and Christiana Smith. He was educated in the local schools and attended Yale College where he graduated in 1750. He taught school for a few years while studying theology, and upon receiving a call from the church in Granville, which he accepted, he was ordained in Granville in the church built by his predecessor, Rev. Moses Tuttle. He was a delightfully cultured gentleman and conspicuous for his piety. It is said that the charm of his conversation was irresistible. He took hold of the pastoral work in the parish with a will and for a few years the church prospered and all went well and smoothly. It transpired, however, that he was falling under the influence of the doctrines preached by the Rev. Solomon Stoddard, of Northampton. Most of his flock in Granville were believers in the Jonathan Edwards type of religion, with hell fire as the reward for original sin. The mellowed doctrine of Rev. Stoddard appealed to him and when remonstrated with by his deacons and others of his parish, he remained of the same opinion. He was in favor of the half way covenant and similar Stoddardean principles of church administration, which sounded of rank heresy to the rock-ribbed believers in Granville. This led to a long dispute which extended over a number of years, all the time waxing hotter and more bitter. In the mean time political tension between the Colonies and the Mother Country was strained almost to the breaking point. On this point he was a firm Loyalist, while the parish was almost a unit in opinion, word and deed for the Colonies. So the doctrinal difficulties and his political attitude brought about his dismissal on April 16, 1776.

He had married Edith Bates of Granville, and ten children had been born to them. The oldest, Jedediah, Jr., went to Blandford where he lived a long and active life. The house where he lived and held court is still (1935) standing on the road from the Ripley farm, near the Borden Brook Reservoir in Granville, to Blandford. The Rev. Jedediah with all his family, except Jedediah Jr., sailed from Middletown, Connecticut, on May 1, 1776, with a company of pioneers who were going out to establish a colony on the Missis-

issippi River above Natchez. He became ill of a fever soon after their vessel began to ascend the Mississippi and in his delirium he jumped overboard. He was rescued, but the shock, in his weakened condition, was so great that he was unable to rally and he died at Natchez September 2, 1776, at the age of fifty years. He was buried on the bank of the river, which later, in a time of high water, washed away the bank at that point, together with the grave and its contents. It would be interesting to know whether or not his former parishioners in Granville, who had dismissed him less than five months before his tragic end, considered his fate a matter of retribution. His family went on from Natchez and took part in founding the contemplated settlement, and for many years some of his descendants were to be found there.

After the dismissal of Mr. Smith, the church was without a settled pastor for about twenty years. The excitement and emotion of the Revolution and the hard times in the years immediately following the war took up so much of the time, attention and strength of the people that the affairs of the church dropped, temporarily, into second place in the thoughts of the parish. Services of ministers were accepted from time to time as the occasions offered. They did pause long enough to vote at a Town meeting January 21, 1777, "that no person be introduced into the pulpit of the meeting house unless he have a certificate from some proper authority." Whether the people had been imposed upon by some unlicensed quack preacher or not, does not appear, but it is clear they did not propose to deal with anyone who just happened to come along.

The population of the Town had grown to such an extent that the Town was in 1784 divided into three parishes, designated as East Granville, Middle Granville and West Granville. In addition to this geographical change, an even greater one was brought about by the trying times of the Revolution. In some way, without any formal action, the control over the church exercised by the Town was allowed to lapse, so that all the affairs of the church came to be handled by the Parishes and not by the Town. This lapse of the Town control was completed by the division of the Town into three Parishes. It was a sort of separation of Church and State, and it worked to the advantage of both.

One of Granville's revolutionary soldiers, Capt. William Cooley, lived in the northeast part of the District with his wife, who was Sarah Mather, of Suffield, Connecticut, and four children, when on March 13, 1772, the number was increased by the advent of another son. This event, though little noted at the time, was momentous for Granville, for this child was destined to spend his life in Granville and exert a greater influence upon the Town than any other single individual who had lived within its confines. This child was none other than Timothy Mather Cooley. He was a frail boy and considered not strong enough to undertake the rugged life of a farmer. In speaking of his health in childhood and later, Dr. Cooley at the 1845 Jubilee said: "At the age of five years when my revered father buried two of his children in a single week, he noticed a burial place for a third, which he expected me soon to occupy. After hopeless weeks, God raised me up, and I have not been confined to my room *a day for 68 years.*"

He was studious by nature and after mastering such education as was to be obtained in the district schools, he studied and fitted for college under the Rev. Noah Atwater, of Westfield, according to the best traditions of the day. He then attended Yale College from which he was graduated in 1792. After graduation he taught a year in New Haven, Connecticut, and the next year in Litchfield, in that state. Then he began the study of theology under the Rev. Charles Backus, in Somers, Connecticut, and in June 1795 was licensed to preach.

His first sermon was preached in his home meeting house in East Granville, and we can readily understand how much interest was at once created when this event was announced and became generally known. The old meeting house by the Great Rock was on that Sabbath packed to overflowing. Some were there by reason of their religious impulses, but not a few were present to see what Capt. William Cooley's boy *could* do. The slim young minister preached to them earnestly, sensibly, with no thought of the morrow. That first sermon, preached on the first Sunday in June, 1795, must have been a clarion call to better living, not soon to be forgotten. After the services we can see the good people, neighbors and friends,

crowding around their young townsman, shaking his hand and congratulating him upon the occasion.

He then went to Salisbury, Connecticut, where he preached four months. It was during this period that the people of the East Parish in Granville discussed "Capt. Cooley's boy," pro and con. And it turned out that there were more pros than cons. In fact the latter could scarcely be discerned, because on November 15, 1795, a call was extended to the boy to come back home and preach to his neighbors. And back to Granville he came, to begin a notable pastorate of over sixty years. A fortunate decision for Granville.

He was ordained February 3, 1796, and like the sensible man he was, he married Content Chapman in the following May, and settled down to be a spiritual and educational leader in Western Massachusetts for more than half a century. Here he preached the gospel, baptized the children, married the youth and performed the last rites for the dead, until his death December 14, 1859, nearly sixty-five years. Nor is this all. He taught many young men, inspiring them with the desire for education, and fitted them for college. He wrote much. He was a member of the school committee in his school district for fifty years. He was a trustee of the Westfield (Massachusetts) Academy; a trustee and later vice-president of Williams College. He was a member of most of the church councils within a radius of fifty miles. He kept a detailed record of his activities, and at the beginning of his labors he collected and put into record form such details of the vital statistics of the Town as were at that time remembered of the period from the departure of the Rev. Smith to the beginning of his own pastorate. He was an indefatigable worker and a great leader. He was a product of the Granville hills and he understood his people. His death was an irreparable loss to the Town.

As before mentioned, one result of the Revolution was to separate the control of the Church in Granville from the Town government. For many years the people in the western part of the town had been trying to get another meeting house, so as to have one of their own nearer home. Having tried at various times without success to get permission from the town to do this, they at last, in 1778, went ahead of their own accord and built a meeting house in Middle

Granville. To be sure it had no steeple, bell, stove, blinds or cushions, but it was a place where they could meet if they chose. In 1781 the First Church voted that those of their numbers who lived west of the Great Valley might be allowed to form themselves into a separate church. This they did and on November 19, 1781, the Second Church of Christ in Granville was duly organized, of which more will be said later. The Second Church naturally took many from the membership of the First Church and this voluntary separation was made official in 1784 when the Town was formally divided into three Parishes.

Another event of importance to Granville, which soon happened, was the branching off from the First Church of a group of twenty-five members, some of whom had been excommunicated by the First Church, because they had come to be believers in "that pernicious doctrine" held by the so-called Baptists. This group led by David Rose, one of the excommunicated, met in a private house (very likely it was his own house) together with representatives from the Baptist churches in Westfield and Suffield, and on February 17, 1790, organized themselves into the Baptist Church in Granville of which more later. Thus another branch had broken from the ancestral tree, and the Old Church was again diminished in numbers.

The era of church expansion in Granville was not yet over. Many new settlers in the West Parish tended inevitably toward the establishing of a new church in that Parish. It was a long, and at some seasons of the year, arduous trip to attend church services in Middle Granville, and the desire for a church nearer home resulted in organizing a church in the West Parish in 1797. The members of the new church were naturally drawn from the membership of the Second Church. Although the West Parish in Granville had been set off as a separate parish in 1784, it remained a part of the Town of Granville until 1810; yet curiously enough the name of the church appearing on the first page of the church records is "The church of Christ in Tolland." This is in the handwriting of Rev. Roger Harrison, and was apparently written in 1798. It may be that this particular portion of the West Parish was called Tolland as early as that date.

So it is to be seen what changes had taken place in Granville in

the course of half a century, in the matter of churches. Five churches instead of one.

The meeting house of the First Church was away off to one side of the Parish instead of being approximately at the center of population, as it had been when erected, due to the division of the Town into three Parishes. It was not long before the proposal for a new meeting house to be at the village of East Granville, now Granville Center, was heard. It became more and more insistent and indeed it was entirely reasonable. So it was decided to build a new house of worship. Land was secured from Richard Dickinson as appears by his deed to the Inhabitants of the East Parish of Granville dated April 26, 1802, which is recorded in Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Volume 56 at page 597. This plot of land was nine rods square and is described as "beginning at a stake on the south side of the highway near Doct. Aaron Bigelow's now dwelling house and five rods twenty links west of land owned by Dan Bissell." Work on the new meeting house was pushed along so rapidly that on May 27, 1802, the frame of the new building was raised and it was dedicated November 10, of the same year. Daniel Bushnell, of East Hartland, Connecticut, was the builder. The pulpit in the present meeting house is the same one which had graced the former house of worship, for it will be recalled that Dr. Cooley, in his address delivered at the Granville Jubilee, said "A half century has passed away since, with trembling, inexperienced steps I entered *this pulpit* for the first time." The tradition is that it was brought from England soon after 1750 to be installed in the house of worship at that time being finished and in use. Formerly there was a huge sounding board behind the pulpit, but long ago it was removed and it has disappeared. The bell in the present meeting house was donated by the ladies of the parish. The venerable pipe organ now silently reposing in the gallery of the meeting house is one of the first to be used in western Massachusetts. It was built in Granby, Connecticut, and dedicated in 1835. The late George W. Rose, who for many years conducted a music store in Westfield, and who was born in Granville in 1810, said he assisted in constructing it and setting it up. In this connection an interesting side light about this ancient meeting house and its organ appears in an entry in the

private journal of Dr. Cooley under date of July 28, 1840, which is as follows:—

“The meeting house having been remodeled & repaired, was dedicated anew to Almighty God. Invocation & reading select passages of scripture by the pastor. Prayer by Rev. Isaac Knapp. Dedication sermon by Mark Hopkins, D. D., President of Williams College. Prayer by Rev. E. Davis. Benediction by Rev. Aaron Gates. The sermon by Pres. Hopkins, by great originality, held a crowded assembly in fixed attention.

The performance of the choir accompanied by a well toned organ added special interest to the occasion.

The dressing of the pulpit, and means in part, for purchasing the organ were furnished by youthful emigrants from Granville.”

The organ's present state of decrepitude is due to acts of vandalism of irresponsible youth. It was used at the adjourned Jubilee in 1895 and thereafter until the organ in the choir loft was given by the late Francis B. Cooley, of Hartford, Connecticut.

A curious custom of earlier days, memory of which ought not to be allowed to lapse into oblivion, is one recalled by the late Milton B. Whitney. He said he remembered that when he was a boy (he was born in 1825) all “intentions of matrimony were posted in the porch of the meeting house.”

It is said that the old meeting house near the Great Rock was torn down in 1802, but the writer has been unable to discover any data concerning this. However, it is interesting to know that the land on which the old meeting house stood was sold by the Parish Committee on September 4, 1805, for the sum of \$32.00 to Lemuel Storrs of Middletown, Connecticut, a deed of which was recorded in Volume 46 at page 422, in the Hampshire Registry of Deeds. From this fact it would seem that the old meeting house had been razed prior to that date, otherwise the purchase price would have been greater than that stated in the deed.

Still another blow was to fall upon the historic old First Church. It came in 1805 in a rather unusual form. The group of men and women who had decided to go to Ohio and establish a new settlement there as related in previous pages, caused a council to be held in East Granville on May 1, in that year, and with due formality, twenty-four members, some of whom had been largely instrumental

in getting the new meeting house built, with sundry others, were organized into a church, with all the usual officers, which was to be transplanted bodily into the "western wilderness." This took about one third of the old church! Thus more of the wheel horses of the old First Church departed. In his sermon at the 1845 Jubilee, Dr. Cooley said: "This was a great loss to us, but as the hand of God was in it, we said to them, 'Go, and we will pray for you.' " This last loss reduced the membership to about fifty.

With the approach of the year 1845, members of the church began to consider the question of a fitting observance to celebrate the completion of fifty years service among them by their beloved pastor, Rev. Timothy Mather Cooley. It was decided to have a sort of old home day on a grand scale. Accordingly on January 1, 1845, the church voted to have the celebration on the last Wednesday in August (Aug. 27th). Committees were appointed. The scope of the work was outlined and the workers organized. At a meeting of the Town in the early part of April, another committee, representing the Town, was appointed to cooperate with the church in the forthcoming celebration. Arrangements progressed to their appointed ends. Invitations were sent out. When the chosen day came, it proved to be a pleasant and delightfully warm summer day. The highways and byways were filled with people, all journeying to East Granville. That little hill-top village was visited by more people on that day than had ever, prior to that time, been in the town on any one day since the creation of the world, and no such multitude assembled there again in the following half century. Three thousand, or more, were there to make the occasion a memorable one, and they certainly succeeded, for it is talked about even to this day, nearly one hundred years later. The Granville Jubilee was a real event for this historic old town. The good old meeting house could not begin to hold all the assembled multitude. Addresses, music by a choir of fifty voices, a big dinner for all, original poems for the occasion by that sweet singer, Mrs. Lydia H. Sigourney, of Hartford, Connecticut, and to cap the climax, a wonderful historical discourse by Dr. Cooley wherein he expressed many of his personal recollections and experiences of the past half century. He had been personally acquainted with all the early settlers, from that

first pioneer, the redoubtable Samuel Bancroft, to those then living, except the few who had died during the first forty years or so after the first settlement. In speaking of the East Granville Parish at the time of his ordination, he said: "The parish was small, comprising 877 souls, 438 males and 439 females," and "The number of members in this church, when I took the oversight of it, was fifty-nine, twenty-four males and thirty-five females. Admission since then by examination 333. The present number (of members) is one hundred thirty three, forty-one males and ninety-two females." In considering this growth of the church, it must be borne in mind that not only had it lost members to the colony which went to Granville, Ohio, but also to the Baptist church, and also that the population of the Town had for some years been diminishing. During the half century, Dr. Cooley had conducted ten revivals. In reviewing his work among his parishioners, it is well to let him set forth some of his prodigious labors. "I have met you at every communion season, six times a year, with the exception of four and a half months when on a mission trip to the west, and three months on a pastoral visit to our brethren in Granville, Ohio. With few exceptions, I have supplied this pulpit on the Sabbath. Five times I have by previous appointment performed a visitation of the entire parish, making a record of the name and age of each individual, conversing and praying with parents and children. In addition to weekly and district meetings for prayer and preaching, I have attended as many as 1400 bible class lessons for the benefit of the youth. In seasons of revival, meetings have been multiplied as the exigency required.

Besides the supervision of common schools as Town Committee 48 years, and of the higher institutions of learning the greatest part of that time, as many as 800 pupils have received instruction from my lips, preparatory for college, and for business, sixty of whom have entered the ministry.

Besides meetings of Associations and County Benevolent Societies, I have attended sixty ecclesiastical councils. I have solemnized two hundred and forty-four marriages, attended about five hundred funerals and usually preached a sermon on the occasion."

Granville may well, even to the remotest posterity, remember and render homage to such a servant.

At the close of the afternoon services, it was voted unanimously that this Jubilee be adjourned to the last Wednesday in August, in the year 1895, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, at this place, and the meeting was adjourned accordingly.

So many former residents and friends remained in town that some three hundred or more assembled at the meeting house the next day and enjoyed themselves in visiting and listening to former residents who had attained leadership in other places. Another grand dinner and then the farewells. The Jubilee was over. Both church and community had done themselves proud in honoring this remarkable man, one of their own people.

One of the outcomes of this celebration was the donation of a complete set of communion silver, two tankards and eight goblets, by three former Granville men, Rev. David B. Coe, Mr. Jesse B. Spelman and Mr. Joseph J. West, all then living in New York City, a concrete evidence of their steadfast loyalty.

Another reminder of the Jubilee is the monument, bearing a properly inscribed bronze medallion, which now stands near the northwest corner of the meeting house, erected to commemorate this grand festival.

Dr. Cooley was spared fourteen more years to serve his parish. One of the latest entries in his handwriting in the records of the First Church is the following:

FAREWELL TO THE PULPIT.

First sabb. in April,* 1795, the Pastor brought his first Sermon into the ancient pulpit. First sabbath in April, 1855, carried into the same pulpit his *Farewell Sermon*.

Lines of the occasion by Mrs. L. H. Sigourney.

O Friends! the tie is breaking
That closely bound our hearts,
And from the walls of Zion
Our aged watchman parts.
And to the sacred pulpit
Where three score years he bore
Salvation's glorious message
His feet return no more.

* April must be an error. His first sermon as stated by himself at the 1845 Jubilee was on the first Sabbath in *June*.

Farewell! A blessed service
It hath been his to pay
In prayer and praise and duty
To strive to lead your way.
Farewell! your kind affection
So constant and so sweet
Shall still be fondly cherished
While memory holds her seat.
Dear Flock! the heavenly pastures
Are ever green and fair,
Eternal waters gently flow,
Meet your Old Shepherd there.

Many changes have come to the old meeting house, as well as to most other things in Granville. In 1840 a gale of wind carried away all that portion of the steeple which was above the roof. This damage was repaired, but it is thought the steeple was not restored till 1862, when the meeting house was moved back from near the road where it originally stood, to the place where it now stands, in accordance with a vote of the Parish June 18, 1860, "to move the church the length of the building to the south." At that time (1862) the remainder of the old belfry, which stood on the ground and adjoined the north side of the meeting house, was taken down. This belfry was twelve feet eight inches square and even today its outline may be traced on the north end of the meeting house by the lines where the new clapboards were butted against the ends of the old clapboards. The present portico with its pillars was then added, as well as the present steeple. At the time of the Jubilee in 1845, Dr. Cooley referred to the "ancient pulpit" in which he was then standing as "his for more than half a century." This would seem to indicate that the pulpit was the same one which had been in the former meeting house by the Great Rock. The pews originally in the present meeting house were the old style square ones, but after a time they were removed, probably in 1862, and others of more modern style put in their places. In the summer of 1870 the meeting house was again "closed for repairs." And again in 1890, extensive repairs and changes were made, the second style pews were removed and replaced by the present chairs, and a memorial window to Dr. Cooley was set in the south wall of the building behind the pulpit.

Also in 1901 changes were made, the pulpit platform was lowered fifteen inches and it was extended to the west as it now is, to make accommodations for the choir and a new organ.

During the ministry of Dr. Cooley, the church was not called upon to consider the necessity for a parsonage because he owned the house in which he lived, but on his retirement from most of his active duties in 1855, and the subsequent securing of an assistant pastor, the question of a parsonage became important and acute. In 1857 one Rev. Mr. Page was serving the Parish and he had established himself in the house formerly owned by Dr. Lewis Harvey, but at that time owned by Charles F. Bates. It so happened that Mr. Bates wished to sell the house, so negotiations were not difficult, and in the early summer he conveyed to "the Congregational Society of religious worship in the East Parish of Granville" the land and buildings now known as the Parsonage. The land is described as being "near the Congregational meeting house, bounded south on the highway, east on land of Lucius Gibbons, north on land of Lucius Gibbons, and west on land of Levi Brown." This deed is dated May 15, 1857, and is recorded in Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Volume 189 at page 213, and reserved to Rev. Mr. Page the part of the house he then occupied until April 1, 1858. Until 1946, the property was used as a parsonage, and the west wing was re-arranged and equipped with a kitchen and a small hall for parish purposes.

When the Jubilee in 1845 was adjourned for fifty years, it seemed as though fifty years was an endless period and far beyond the imagination. The days dragged slowly by, but the years sped swiftly, and in due time the last Wednesday in August 1895 arrived, and the day for the Adjourned Granville Jubilee had come. Again the highways were filled with travellers journeying to the old meeting house on the hill. Again the residents and many non-residents who, or whose ancestors, were born among, or were otherwise interested in, the Granville hills, assembled to honor the historic town, its ancient church, and the memory of its great leader, Dr. Cooley. The weather man again smiled and sent a wonderful summer day with sunshine and light breezes. The old meeting house was again filled to overflowing, but there were plenty of grand old trees, in

the shade of which rest and renewal of old acquaintances could be enjoyed. J. Henri Brown, son of the late Ralph S. Brown, delivered the address of welcome. Rev. Edward B. Coe, of New York, a descendant of James A. Coe of Middle Granville, was the principal speaker and delivered the historical address in the forenoon. The principal speaker in the afternoon was Dr. Franklin Carter, President of Williams College, who delivered an eulogy on Dr. Cooley. Letters were received and read from Gen. George B. Wright, a nephew of Dr. Cooley; Dr. Austin Scott, President of Rutgers College, a grand-son of Reuben Ranney; Hon. E. B. Gillett of Westfield, a grand-son of Jacob Bates, one of the officers of that company of Minute Men who marched to Cambridge under command of Capt. Lebbeus Ball in 1775; Prof. Charles H. Hitchcock, of Dartmouth College, a great-grand-son of Luke Hitchcock who lost his life in the Revolution; and many others. A complete and minutely detailed account of the occasion can be found in the (Westfield) *Times and News Letter* of September 4, 1895. It was estimated that 1000 visitors were present at the celebration. And there was added to the stone monument at the corner of the old meeting house another bronze medallion of commemoration. Soon it will be August, in the year 1945.

In tracing the growth of the service rendered by the church, it is interesting to note an unusual, and probably unique, feature introduced by Dr. Cooley. This he called a "Moral School," and it was composed of the younger members of his congregation. It was formed in 1812 and the record shows fifty-three were in attendance at the first meeting on February 10th of that year, thirty-six of whom Dr. Cooley stated "had attained the necessary qualifications and were presented with a Bible." Others were accepted and admitted to the School from time to time. At first, sessions were held only four times a year, but later they were more frequent. The Bible was the text book, supplemented by talks and comments by Dr. Cooley, who appears to have based his instruction broadly upon the theme of clean, upright living. This School flourished many years, its meetings becoming more and more frequent until finally they were held every week, and gradually the School became the nucleus of the Sunday School. In 1845, the year of the Jubilee, Dr. Cooley said: "In 1812 my Bible Class, which has existed thirty-three

years, was organized and enrolled. Terms of admission: recital memoriter of the Assembly's shorter catechism and a perusal of the whole bible in course. On admission each one received a Bible with this inscription: *Read the Scriptures daily.*"*

A copy of an original letter of Dr. Cooley's has recently come to light wherein he states some interesting facts. This letter has no date, but from the appearance of the handwriting must have been written in his old age, long after the establishment of his Moral School.

To the Secretary of the Massachusetts Sabbath School Society.
Rev. and Dear Sir:—

The Sabbath School Union is paramount in its benign influence, to any of the benevolent institutions of the past age. The Bible, Missionary, and Tract Societies are indispensable. The same is true of Sabbath Schools. In my own Parish I formed one when not another was known to exist in New England.

In 1816, while attending the General Assembly, I first became acquainted with Sabbath Schools. They were then in a rude state. The pupils comprised only the children of the poor of the city. My host had a small (school) in a remote alley, and one evening invited me to accompany him to his school. He gave them Literary and religious instruction.

My own Sabbath School was soon organized, comprising children of all classes. My Bible (Class) had been formed in 1812, four years previous, and furnished with a library of 100 vol. and each pupil a bible of his own. Do you ask the effect of Sabbath Schools on my Parish?

The influence was happy on the cause of education. They read the books in (the) Library. Our talented Secretary of A. H. M. Socy. taking up, when here, a book belonging to the Library, and this made me show many others. The books from their share Library made it not easy to teach the youth of both sexes.

This small place, with no advantages for the accumulation of wealth, has sent abroad scores and hundreds of emigrant sons and daughters to fill the learned professions and various special business, who are a credit to themselves and their birth place.

They have promoted specially the interests of morality and piety.†

* A Bible presented to Jephtha Rose upon his admission to the Moral School, by Dr. Cooley, bearing the above inscription and his autograph, is now in the possession of Mrs. Lavinia Rose Wilson.

† This letter is in a manuscript volume written by Dr. Cooley, entitled *Gazetteer of the Bible*, which is now in the possession of Mr. William G. Snow, of Meriden, Connecticut.

The Library of 100 volumes which Dr. Cooley mentions, he has elsewhere stated comprised the writings of Edwards, Proudfit, Lathrop, Baxter, Silliman, Rollin and kindred authors, books which today are read only by the theologic antiquarian. Again quoting Dr. Cooley: "The Library, long since, was worn, and scattered and lost."

Even the overshadowing presence of Dr. Cooley in the pulpit and the straight-laced atmosphere of a New England meeting house could not always prevent a youthful mind from wandering to ideas quite unrelated to the discourse. One such mental lapse from Sabbath duty has come down to us. Timothy Ranney was the culprit. The following rhyme he scribbled in the hymn book of his good friend:

When old Priest Cooley rises up
As bold as any lion
And reads the hymn, 8-7s and 4s,
We rise and sing old Zion.

Now, if we learn no other tune,
But only Zion squall,
We'll have to sing that tune in Hell,
Or else not sing at all.

The Second Church

It has already been noted that the Second Church of Christ in Granville was organized in 1781 with twenty-eight members, but to have a clear understanding of the situation, both when the church was formed and now, it is necessary to recall and repeat a few facts and correlate them in order not to be confused by the archaic condition at present existing in connection with this venerable church.

To begin with it is essential to keep in mind that the term *church* is used herein to mean the collection of individuals who were, and are, the members of the religious society, and the term church does *not* mean building in which religious worship is conducted. The building is herein designated the meeting house to distinguish it from the body of worshippers. With this distinction in mind no difficulty will be experienced in following the narrative.

When the meeting house was erected in 1778, the church did not exist and of course there could be no one to represent it. There was no one to secure a site upon which to erect the meeting house. There was not even a self appointed committee. But the desire to have a meeting house was so universal and so strong that the residents of that part of the District went right on with their wishes regardless of the fact that there was no church. They proposed to have a meeting house, and when the opportunity offered, they would organize a church. They would get a cage and trust to luck about getting a bird to put in it. The erection of their meeting house was not authorized by the District nor by any higher authority other than the common desire of the residents of that locality. An exhaustive search fails to find any deed of any plot of ground on which the meeting house was to be built but a little investigation will indicate why they considered a deed was not necessary. Middle Granville had a large open area in the center of what is now the village and this piece of land was common land. Every citizen had a right to pasture his horses, cattle and hogs on this common land. This was used on training days by the militia, and at any and all times when anything of common interest was occurring. What more natural than that in this matter which was of vital interest to all, the meeting house, which was to be used by all, should be erected on land owned by all? And so it was done. The meeting house was built on the Green, the common land. It stood much to the south of the spot where it now stands. It was on the north side of the main east and west road, but very close to the road and the present front end of the building was toward the east and not toward the south as now. Doubtless all the people in that area furnished labor or material, or both, so that all felt a species of ownership in it. Thus Middle Granville had its own meeting house. A building owned in common built on land owned in common. Very simple. No need for any deed.

In 1781 they had permission to organize a church, which they did. The church, as such, had not built the meeting house, nor had it had any thing to do with it, so how could the *church* claim to own the meeting house? It could not and did not. By common consent it used the meeting house, but that was all. Just how this complicated situation was handled in the next three years does not appear, but

in 1784, when Granville was divided into three parishes, areas for ecclesiastical purposes, it cleared itself up. Then the Middle Parish, by common consent, was considered to be, and to all practical purposes was, the owner of the meeting house and *still continues to be such*.

The Middle Parish organized itself after the pattern of the Town. Its executive officers, three in number, were not called Selectmen, but Executive Committee. It had its Clerk, Treasurer, Assessors and Collector. It was like a miniature Town, but its entire activities were in the field of religion until 1787 when, for the consideration of £6, the Middle Parish accepted a deed from Ezra Baldwin for an acre of land to be used for a cemetery. Thereafter until 1906 it controlled and managed the Parish cemetery. All this brought about a very curious condition. The Parish Committee, who might or might not be members of the church, engaged the preacher, repaired the meeting house, levied taxes and collected them for the purposes of the church. Its Treasurer paid the bills. All the temporal affairs in connection with the church and meeting house were, and are now, in the hands of the Parish, through the Parish Committee, while the spiritual affairs of the church and Parish were conducted by the church. The logical outcome of such an arrangement was that frequently those who were not church members were, and are, in the position of imposing their will and judgment in church affairs upon those who were, and are, church members. The Prudential Committee of the Church can recommend to the Parish Committee whomsoever they would like to have for a pastor, but they can do no more, and the Parish Committee is under no obligation to be guided by a recommendation of the Prudential Committee. It seems like an awkward and cumbersome arrangement. It is an interesting relic of the past.

Now, going back to the affairs of the Church, the Rev. Aaron Booge, who was later to take up the pastorate there, was present to assist in forming the church according to the established order. The original membership list contains twenty-eight names, as follows:

Ebenezer Baldwin
Elizabeth Baldwin

Ezra Baldwin
Lois Baldwin

Edith Bates
 John Bates
 Aaron Coe
 Hope Coe
 Mary Coe
 John Cornwall
 Elizabeth Cornwall
 Aaron Curtiss
 David Curtiss
 Thankful Curtiss
 Lemuel Haynes
 Isabelle Miller

Marvin Moore
 Mary Moore
 David Parsons
 Rebeckah Parsons
 Hannah Robinson
 Timothy Robinson
 Achsey Rose
 David Rose
 Caroline Seward
 John Seward
 Jane Spelman
 Oliver Spelman

It is interesting to note that the name of the church appears in various forms at different periods in the records of the Parish. At times it is called the First Congregational Society in Middle Granville. At other times it appears as the Congregational Society in the Middle Parish of Granville, but the writer has failed to find any record of any change from the original name: The Second Church of Christ in Granville.

A Prudential Committee was chosen, and having already a meeting house, manifestly the next thing was to find a preacher. Strangely enough there was one right at hand, none other than Lemuel Haynes, who was to become famous later as one of the most powerful preachers of his day.

Few, if any, have had greater obstacles to overcome than Lemuel Haynes had, and few overcame them so successfully. A brief sketch of his life is of vastly more than passing interest. It is a story of handicaps overcome, and the kindly affection of a kindly people.

He was born July 18, 1753, in that part of Hartford, Connecticut, which is now known as West Hartford. His father was a negro whose name has passed into the limbo of forgotten things, and his mother was a Scotch girl by the name of Alice Fitch. She was employed as a domestic in the family of John Haynes. After the birth of her child she was discharged by her employer, who kept the child, probably much to her relief. For the lack of any other name, the boy was called Haynes, and given the first name Lemuel. In some way not now apparent, David Rose, of Middle Granville, heard of the child and took him as an indentured servant until he was twenty-one years of age. Mr. Rose brought him home to

Middle Granville on New Year's Day, 1754. It was a real New Year's Day for Lemuel. Mr. Rose was a very devout and strict Christian, and he brought up Lemuel in the best traditions of the time. Took him to church. Sent him to school. Taught him to work. Gave him opportunity to read the very few books available in such a rural community. From his mother Lemuel had inherited traits of thrift and prudence, and such was his dependability that long before his term was up, he had the oversight of no small part of his benefactor's property. In due time he was baptized. When he came home from service at the meeting house on the Sabbath, it was his custom to relate the sermon to Mr. Rose.

There was always on Saturday night at the Rose homestead, a sermon read and discussed. The reading of these sermons soon came to be a part of Lemuel's duties. One night he read a sermon which greatly interested Mr. Rose, who said, "Lemuel, whose sermon was that, Davies', or Watts', or Whitfield's?" Lemuel did not at first answer, but finally said with much hesitation, "It is Lemuel's." Thus early did he indicate the field in which he was to succeed. After that he was encouraged, not only by Mr. Rose, but also by the entire neighborhood.

He was a member of the Company of Minute Men who marched on the Lexington alarm that April day in 1775. He was also on the Ticonderoga expedition, where he was stricken with typhus fever and invalided home. His time of servitude had expired, but the doors of David Rose's house were always open to him for so long as he wished to stay. He recovered his health and in 1779 was studying Latin with the Rev. Daniel Ferrand, of Canaan, Connecticut. The next winter he taught school in Wintonbury, now Bloomfield, Connecticut, and studied Greek with Rev. William Bradford. On November 29, 1780, he was examined in theology and languages by a committee which recommended him as qualified to preach. He was then licensed and preached his first sermon in Wintonbury. Having no other home than Mr. Rose's, and being one of the charter members of the Middle Granville church, he was right on the spot when a preacher was needed. He was given a unanimous call to be their first pastor, which he accepted, and at the age of twenty-seven, in spite of all the prejudices caused by ignominious birth, color and

limited education, he occupied the pulpit of the Middle Granville meeting house, as Dr. Cooley said, "with universal approbation." Such, briefly, is the story of the struggles, the Saturday evening sermons and chimney corner education of one of the foremost preachers of his generation.

Five years he preached to this congregation of his neighbors, and it is said that all ages of people were carried away by his eloquence. His ability was perhaps the only thing which kept his church active and prevented it from being overcome by the general slump in the moral life of the country following the War for Independence.

He married Elizabeth Babbit, of Dighton, Massachusetts, on September 22, 1783, who was at that time teaching one of the schools in Granville, and the wedding was highly approved by all the ministers of the section. The marriage took place in Hartland, Connecticut, and the ceremony was performed by the Rev. Samuel Woodbridge. He was ordained as a regular minister of the gospel November 9, 1785. After a few weeks he received and accepted a call to a church in Torrington, Connecticut. This officially closed his connection with Granville.

After two years at Torrington, he accepted a call to Rutland, Vermont, where he preached thirty years, and was regarded as the leading minister in Vermont. In 1814 he was in New Haven, Connecticut, and was invited to speak in Dr. Edwards' church. Only the blue bloods went there. President Dwight, of Yale, entertained him over the week end. He then attended, as a delegate, the convention of the Connecticut General Association at Fairfield, where he was asked to preach the annual sermon. Twenty years after that, President Humphrey, of Amherst College, spoke of that sermon as one of the most remarkable ever preached in New England. Later he had a pastorate in Manchester, New Hampshire, for two years and then he had a church in Granville, New York, for eleven years till his death September 28, 1833.

Dr. Timothy M. Cooley, in describing this remarkable preacher, said: "The writer of this narrative, though a resident in a different parish in the town, and having opportunity to hear him in comparatively but few instances, owes more under God to Lemuel Haynes than to any other minister among the living or the dead.

His sermons are the earliest which I now remember to have heard, and, though preached more than half a century ago, are at this time recollected with a distinctness entirely inapplicable to those of any other preacher. They uniformly left the impression of the majesty of God; the importance of immediate repentance; the awful solemnity of the judgment day; the attractive loveliness of Christ; and the pleasantness of wisdom's ways His delivery was rapid, his voice charming, like the *vox argentea* of which Cicero makes frequent and honorable mention, his articulation uncommonly distinct, a perennial stream of transparent, sweet, animated elocution, presenting his arguments with great simplicity and striking effect."*

Granville may well be proud of this self-taught and able colored gentleman who grew up in their midst and whose remarkable oratorical ability was fostered and cherished by a kindly people.

After Mr. Haynes gave up the pastoral work in Middle Granville and accepted a church in Torrington, the Rev. William Bradford supplied the pulpit for a short time, as he had done for the First Church shortly after the Revolution.

The next minister to be settled in Middle Granville Parish was the Rev. Aaron Jordan Booge, who was born in that part of Farmington, Connecticut, which is now known as West Avon, May 6, 1752, being the eldest son of Rev. Ebenezer Booge, of that place, a native of Scotland. He attended Yale College and was graduated there in 1774. He served in the Continental Army in the early part of the War for Independence, and returning, accepted a call to the church at Turkey Hills, now East Granby, Connecticut. Here he was ordained and installed and served the community about nine years when some trouble growing out of the depreciation of the currency brought about his dismissal.

In the following year he accepted a call to come to Middle Granville and was installed there November 17, 1786. His ministry has been characterized as unsuccessful and very disastrous to the church. He seems to have lacked the necessary tact to harmonize his congregation and seems to have been hasty and careless in his duties. One of the chief complaints against him was that he did not do any work toward preparing his sermons until Sunday morning, and then

* Dr. Cooley's *Life of Lemuel Haynes*, page 66.

preached without notes or memoranda, and devoted all his time during the week to secular pursuits. That sort of thing never would do with a congregation which studied their Bibles from one year's end to the other, and were as stern as the sternest. Little elements of friction soon came to be large ones and the inevitable result came in 1793 when he was dismissed. One of the results of his happy-go-lucky methods was to make it easier for some of his parishioners to abandon his church and aid in forming the then new Baptist Church, which they did, several becoming charter members of that church in 1790.

For some years he appears to have had no regular charge, but in 1800 he was called to the Presbyterian Church in Stephentown, New York, where he was two years. Then he had two short pastorates in Galway and Martinsburg, New York, but he stayed only a short time in each place. When the 1812 War broke out he enlisted in the army where he remained five years. Then he went to New Lebanon, New York, where his family was and there he spent the rest of his life, dying June 22, 1826. He had four sons and four daughters. One son is buried in the now West Granville cemetery.

Succeeding Mr. Booge, after an interval, came a pastor of a very different type, one whom the entire community loved, Rev. Joel Baker. So well beloved in fact, that he spent the remainder of his life in their service. Born in Conway, Massachusetts, March 7, 1768, (in the History of Conway, published in 1917, the date is given as May) the third child of Deacon Joel and Sarah (Graves) Baker, and a grand-child of Rev. Noah Baker, of Sunderland, Massachusetts, he came to the church in Middle Granville in January, 1797, when the life of the church was at a very low ebb. He was not married but he set about remedying that condition at once. One of the attractive young women of his congregation was Olive Curtiss, a daughter of David and Prudence (Bishop) Curtiss, and so great became their mutual regard for each other that they were married in Granville by Dr. Cooley the 30th of the following August. Five children, all sons, resulted from this union, three of whom died early in life and are buried in the now West Granville cemetery.

There is ample proof that he labored diligently and conscientiously among his people. Information about him is quite fragmen-

tary, but it is stated in several places that he was very effective in prayer. He must have been a very kindly and gracious gentleman, who went about doing good, counselling, guiding and leading his flock and helping them to bear their burdens, for the membership of his church increased, and although the church suffered the loss of not a few of its members when the church in West Granville (the West Parish) was established in 1797, so successful were his efforts to build up his church that it became necessary for him to have an assistant before his death. At no other time in the life of this ancient church has such an arrangement been necessary. He was a wonderful exponent of the maxim: A soft answer turneth away wrath. He was one of that remarkable trio of ministers in the three Granville villages, each of whom was gifted in a different way. Dr. Cooley was most effective in preaching, the Rev. Baker in prayer and the Rev. Harrison in singing. In seasons of religious revival they made an unsurpassed team. These same ministers composed the Town school committee from the beginning of their several pastorates until 1810, when the Rev. Harrison found himself in a different town, but the other two remained on the Committee until shortly before their respective deaths.

Rev. Joel Baker died September 1, 1833, universally lamented by his parishioners. The headstone at his grave, which was erected by the church, has for its inscription: "For 36 years the faithful and revered pastor of the church of Christ in this place." Thus ended a noteworthy and successful ministry.

His successor was his former assistant, Rev. Seth Chapin. During the pastorate of Mr. Chapin such extensive repairs were made to the meeting house, as well as the addition of a steeple and bell, that, in the absence of data indicating otherwise, it seems likely the moving of the meeting house must have been done then. It was moved by ox power from where it was built, as hereinbefore stated, to the spot where it now stands. In the course of its journey it was turned a quarter way around, so that it now faces the south instead of the east. It is said that it took one hundred yoke of oxen to move it. How large an area would have to be scoured now to get together that number of oxen? Whether the meeting house was moved at the time above suggested or not, it was moved and the chapel, the

old Academy building, was built during the pastorate of Mr. Chapin's successor, Rev. Henry Eddy. It is interesting to note that the Parish Committee in 1838 arranged with John Kent to have him ring the church bell, sweep the floors and build the fires in the meeting house, and agreed to pay him \$18.00 per year for his services.

In the century and a half or so of its existence, the Second Church of Christ in Granville has been served by many ministers, but by none for so long a period as the Rev. Baker. The pastorates have seldom been five years in length, and the membership has ranged from 28 at the beginning, to 124 in 1804, and now, due to dwindling population, is about thirty.

At first the church had no regular parsonage, but that question kept pressing for attention, and early in 1851 the Parish Committee voted to consider the matter of building a parsonage. Such an enterprise in the hard times just before the Civil War could only make headway very slowly, so it is not astonishing that it was not till 1864 that the Parish finally decided not to build a parsonage. It then voted "to instruct the Committee to buy the place of Samuel Colton for a parsonage for the Society." The Colton house was the one where Porter T. Frisbie now lives. It was used as a parsonage until about 1925, when it was sold to the present owner. The spectacle shop, which was on the lot with the parsonage, the Parish voted in 1867 to dispose of, but the hardy little building did not meet dissolution until about 1930.

During the pastorate of Rev. Henry Coolidge (1903-1907) extensive repairs and alterations were again made to the meeting house, among which may be noted the removal of the side galleries and the raising of the floor from the level of the entrance doors to its present level. An item which appeared in one of the newspapers having a local circulation states: "The Congregational society resumed worship in its church last Sabbath after several months absence. The repairs cost nearly \$700.00. The interior work had been thorough, including new upholstered seats and a new carpet. The success of the work is largely due to the efforts of the Ladies' Benevolent Society and a gift of \$250.00 from Francis B. Cooley, of Hartford, Connecticut. A new cabinet chapel organ is the gift

of the same donor, who, in these and former donations, has kindly and generously remembered the people of his native town."

About the time when the meeting house was refitted as above noted, or before, the Parish Committee permitted the church to use the Academy building for its social purposes and soon thereafter an addition, which is now used as a kitchen, was made to the building by Nelson M. Frisbie.

There seems to be no doubt but that the present West Granville meeting house is one of the oldest buildings now standing in Town, having been erected in 1778.

The Baptist Church

At the time when Rev. Jedediah Smith was dismissed by the First Church, religion in Granville was in a state of turmoil, and this condition lasted for nearly twenty years. His acceptance of the doctrines of the Rev. Solomon Stoddard, of Northampton, and particularly the doctrine of the half-way covenant and the effect of baptism, had outraged the feelings of the Granville people and had been his own undoing. The excitement of the war tended to overshadow the religious instincts of the people and for a time patriotism seemed to crowd out all other emotions. There was no minister residing in the Town. Religion was at a low ebb. Preaching was intermittent and uncertain. Volumes of sermons by Watts, Whitfield and others were read and studied. There was much argument. Some were for the doctrine of Edwards, with all its punishment and brimstone. Others were at the other extreme with Stoddard, and having been baptized, felt no further obligations in that matter. Also a new group was springing up which agreed with Edwards' idea of baptism, but disagreed with other elements of his belief. Then at last this latter group found itself. The tenets of the Baptist denomination were just spreading over New England, and by a fortunate chance an itinerant preacher of that persuasion came to Granville and preached a sermon, very probably at the home of Deacon David Rose, for he became converted to their doctrine and when called upon by the authorities of the First Church to cease the practice of "that pernicious doctrine," declined to do so and was thereupon promptly excommunicated.

That was the beginning. Others who sympathized with him and gave him comfort and encouragement were also barred from the First Church. Hardship and persecution seem to be what is needed to make a new religious cult prosper. Thus it happened in Granville. These outcasts were looked down upon and decried in every possible way and on every possible occasion. The writer came upon this entry placed opposite a name in a church record book: "Gone to the Baptists." The tone seemed to be very much like "Gone to perdition."

Thus they struggled along until 1789 when they began to talk about forming themselves into a regular Baptist Church, and a call to that end was sent out to neighboring Baptist Churches to come and organize them. On January 15, 1790, delegates came from Westfield and Suffield, organized a council and after mature deliberation duly authorized the petitioners to form a church. On February 17, 1790, they organized the First Baptist Church of East Granville, commonly spoken of as the Baptist Church, and on the roll of the twenty-five original members the name of David Rose, who had been excommunicated by the First Church of Christ in Granville, like the name of Abou Ben Adhem, led all the rest.

Here are the names of that undaunted little group who had the courage of their convictions.

David Rose	Thomas Steadman
Aaron Spelman	Samuel Steadman
Oliver Spelman	John Root
Stephen Spelman	Sibyl Barlow
Elijah Spelman	Deborah Spelman
Noah Fairnum	Lois Spelman
Jesse Miller	Lucina Spelman
Justin Cooley	Hannah Spelman
Joy Handy	Desire Fairnum
Timothy Spelman	Martha Gillet
Benjamin Stowe	Sarah Rose
Lemuel Crossman	Mary Steadman
Elizabeth Gillet	

This little church began its existence under quite difficult circumstances. They had no pastor to lead them; they had no meeting house wherein to worship; none of their members was very well off in this world's goods; the membership was very widely scattered;

their cause was unpopular and the general economic condition of the country was very low. The times were hard and they had a hard time. However they went forward, and not back. They had preaching when and where they could. Intermittently, to be sure, but according to their beliefs, and in such private houses as were open to them. They struggled along as best they could, until conditions improved somewhat, and in 1798 they secured a minister of their denomination to settle among them. This was the Rev. Christopher Miner, who served them faithfully for ten years. His efforts resulted in increasing the church membership more than 150 per cent. In 1810 the number of members had risen to 82. The next year one of their members, Thomas Spelman, was licensed to preach, but did not settle here. Then came on the 1812 War, with its succeeding depression when struggling was again the order of the day.

There were those among them who began to talk of the need for a meeting house, but times were difficult and they could not see their way clear. Then in 1816, after much discussion, all those members who lived in the then new town of Tolland were dismissed to form a church of their own in that Town. This was a pretty hard blow. It reduced the number of their members very greatly and postponed the matter of a meeting house for several years, but fortune was not wholly adverse. In 1817 one of their members, Silas Root, was ordained to the ministry and duly installed as their pastor. He must have been a man of boundless courage, for in the eighteen years of his service he was the principal factor in the church, and kept the little band going forward in spite of all discouragements. The best picture of the man is had in the words quoted in the record of their centennial celebration in 1890. "If the results of his labors could be chronicled, it would be apparent that he constituted the main-spring which kept the machinery of this church in motion. This good man lived upon his own farm and wrought in support of himself, and preached to the people. His salary ranged from twenty to fifty dollars per year. I had in hand one subscription list amounting to sixteen dollars and forty-six cents for the year. One man's subscription was seventeen cents; another's twenty-five cents to be paid in work; another's fifty cents to be paid in goods. This man, under God, pulled the church through trying times; supported a family of

seven children; sent one boy to college at an expense of \$600.00 . . .”

From having their religious services in private houses here and there, he early secured a regular meeting place, for it appears in the records of the South East School District that on September 14, 1818, it was “voted that the Baptist people have the liberty to occupy the School House for Religious worship.” This was a long step forward and it was soon followed by another. Through his influence a site for a meeting house was secured. On March 31, 1821, Bishop Tillotson and Samuel Tillotson conveyed by warrantee deed to the “Baptist Church” the land whereon the present meeting house stands. The description of the land in that old deed is interesting. It says: “Beginning on the east side of the old highway from Granville to Granby ten rods south of the Wheelwright’s Shop on the Gillet lot, so-called, to a stake and stones; thence southerly on the highway twelve rods to a stake and stones; thence east four rods to a stake and stones; thence northerly parallel to the highway twelve rods; thence west four rods to the point of beginning; containing forty-eight rods of ground.” Another piece of land described in the deed was on the other side of the road. This deed is recorded in Hampden Registry of Deeds in Volume 68 at page 111.

Three years later, in 1824, he succeeded in getting the meeting house erected, himself helping to build it. This house of worship was used by the church until 1849, when it was decided to build a larger meeting house, and a committee was appointed to “sell the old house as soon as practicable.” How promptly this committee performed its duties is indicated by an entry a month later (April 29, 1849): “The old meeting house has been sold at auction to John Phelps for \$105.00.” It was then moved across the road and somewhat to the south where it now stands and is occupied as a dwelling house. It is owned by Lillian Vecchio.

Upon the removal of the old building, services were conducted temporarily in the Academy building near by, while the new meeting house was in process of construction. The building committee consisted of Rev. George D. Felton, Edmund Barlow and William H. Spelman. A contract was made with Silas Noble to build the new meeting house. In this contract fixed sums were specified for different parts of the structure and Mr. Noble, being a conscientious young

man, carried out the specifications literally. The sum determined upon for the seats was less than it should have been and the only way Mr. Noble could figure out how to keep within the allowance was to cut down on the width of that part upon which the worshippers sat. Those narrow seats had one very practical advantage to recommend them. When any one in the congregation happened to fall asleep during the preaching service, the sleeper promptly slipped off onto the floor. One such slip per person was sufficient to cure such lapses. Later on, this short sighted economy was remedied by making the seats wider. So rapidly was the building erected that the dedication service was held in it December 19, 1849, and it has been in constant use ever since. A little more light is given us by another entry in the record, which is the following: "April 6, 1850. J. S. Root is authorized to settle with Mr. Noble for building the meeting house. Debt not far from \$100.00." Apparently the church was sound financially as well as spiritually. The meeting house was without a bell for a number of years but this lack was supplied in 1863. An entry in the diary of Ira L. Root under date of August 6, 1863, in reference thereto says: "they have hung the new bell." Horse sheds for the protection and shelter of the teams of the worshippers were added about that time. These were southerly from the meeting house and were discarded only upon the arrival of the automobile in the early part of the present century.

The calls upon the church for help were as many and as varied in the earlier days as in this generation, and this little church gave of its substance then as well as now. In the handwriting of Mr. Felton appears this item: "December 1, 1850. Took up a contribution for Bro. Edmund Kelly, a colored preacher, pastor of the 2nd Baptist Church in New Bedford, to aid him in purchasing from bondage his wife and four children, who are now in Tennessee, held in slavery by James Walker." This kind of a call would appeal to a sympathetic gentleman like Mr. Felton.

Another entry, still in his own handwriting, helps us further to understand and appreciate the fine sentiment of this man. "Died, March 21, (1851) Sister Abigail Gillet aged 76, the last of the little band who first formed themselves into a Baptist church in this place." Only a fine grained gentleman could write such an epitaph.

In 1835 Elder Root ceased his labors as pastor of the church and in 1846 passed to his reward.

Following Elder Root there were sundry short pastorates and on the first Sunday after Thanksgiving in 1843, a young man by the name of George D. Felton began to supply the pulpit. The following spring he was called to the pastorate and began his labors as their settled minister on April 1, 1844. Soon thereafter he took unto himself a wife, a sister of his deceased wife, and they lived in the house on the north side of the road leading from Granville to Granville Center occupied in 1935 by Thomas A. Banks, and later by Archie Jensen. This house was then called the old parsonage. Title thereto stood in the names of two of the deacons of the church, individually, and when it was decided to build a new and larger meeting house (the present one) these two deacons wished to contribute the value of this parsonage to the funds for the new building, so Mr. Felton very obligingly bought the parsonage from them and paid them what they had paid for it, to wit: \$450.00. This was in 1849. Mr. Felton lived in this house until the end of his pastorate.

Mr. Felton was a refined, scholarly gentleman, warm hearted and spiritual in the care of his parish which he served for twenty-one years. How diligently he worked may be seen by the data compiled by him and offered in connection with his farewell sermon on January 15, 1865. He had in the course of his ministry added 75 new members to his church; performed 70 marriages; attended 400 funerals; preached 2100 sermons and conducted 3150 prayer meetings. In 1850 he established a Sunday School which has continued to the present time. Truly a notable service for a people he loved.

After his resignation he served a church in Robertsville, in the town of Colebrook, Connecticut, and a church in Bloomfield, Connecticut, and in poor health returned to Granville in 1874 to spend his remaining years. Here he purchased his former home, which he had sold upon closing his ministry here in 1865, and continued to reside there until his death in 1885.

For about thirty years the question of a parsonage had not bothered this sturdy church, but shortly after the resignation of Mr. Felton it pressed for attention and in 1873 and 1874 the church

secured the Academy Building which was, and now is, the building next north of the meeting house. It became necessary to obtain four deeds to acquire the entire title, the first one being dated August 27, 1873, and the last one July 31, 1874. In all these deeds, curiously enough, the grantee is not the church, but the several deacons of the church in their official capacity. This building was remodelled and has since been known as the parsonage.

When the meeting house was built, the choir was provided for in the gallery at the west end of the building according to the approved style of that day, but in 1874 an addition was made to the east end of the meeting house so that the choir could be before the congregation instead of being behind it. After a few more years, the need of a chapel was felt and another addition to the meeting house was made at the northeast corner of the building, of appropriate size and shape, and this was used the first time September 12, 1889, for the regular Thursday evening prayer meeting. This enlargement of their plant satisfied all demands for several years. From the time of its construction the meeting house had been heated (?) by wood burning stoves, but in 1893 a furnace was installed and was used for the first time January 14, 1894, to the greatly increased comfort of the congregation. Later there arose a need for kitchen facilities in connection with their social meetings, so in 1927 the chapel was extended to the north sufficiently to meet the needs of the time, and the desired equipment added. Still another addition to the chapel was made in the latter part of 1935. This latest enlargement of its facilities is twelve feet wide and extends the entire length of the chapel. It is on the east, or rear side and has space in the basement for a furnace for heating purposes. This involved securing some additional land from Miss Lillian R. Gaines and her sister and brother.

The church organization was found to be rather unwieldy and awkward to handle, so the church was incorporated January 18, 1905, thus keeping up with the best methods of procedure.

In its earlier years when Baptists were scarce in this part of New England, the church was a member of the Danbury, Connecticut, Association, but it is now a member of the Westfield Association and has been such since 1825.

In the 155 years of its existence, this church has had a long list of faithful and for the most part hard working pastors who have been duly installed and resided in Granville.

Mention ought to be made that in the early days of this church its facilities for baptism were of the pioneer type. Having no other baptistry, a large pool in Seymour Brook was used in administering the rite of baptism. This pool is even now called the "baptisin' hole." It is at a point where the brook is on the north side of Water Street, about a quarter of a mile up stream from the present drum factory. Beside the pool and near the road there is a large boulder. It is not known when this pool was first used for baptism, nor how recently it was used, but many of the older residents remember such occasions. This pool was also used by the Methodists quite frequently after the organization of that church in 1881.

The baptism of a person at this place was an event of no small importance and the children of the village vied with each other to see if they could get there early enough to get a place on the big boulder where they could watch the proceedings.

Later, after Mr. Cooley had created his private lake south of the village, baptisms were sometimes made there. These events at this place also caused a general scramble among the children to secure the best points of vantage from which to see what might take place.

The Methodist Church (Beech Hill)

During the decade following the close of the War for Independence, religion in New England declined greatly. At that time the only settled minister in Granville was at Middle Granville where the Second Church was served by Lemuel Haynes, and later by Aaron J. Booge. Taxes were heavy and the Town's people were struggling to keep out of poverty, so they had little wherewith to induce any minister to settle among them. One result of the times was that in their desire to have the gospel preached among them as frequently as they could afford to pay for it, they had the services of many preachers. Sometimes for a single Sunday, sometimes for several Sundays in succession, but many a Sunday passed without a preacher.

While this was the religious situation in Granville, an itinerant Methodist preacher by the name of Robert Dillon appeared in 1792 in the Beech Hill portion of Blandford, and asked permission to preach at the home of Abijah Babcock. The requested courtesy was granted. Notice of the coming event was circulated and a few, moved by a feeling of curiosity, went to neighbor Babcock's house to see this unknown preacher. At the appointed time Mr. Dillon came. He opened his service by singing the well known hymn commencing: "Come, sinners, to the gospel feast" and after the hymn he knelt down and prayed. This action was heretical enough to make things interesting. The orthodox attitude for the preacher when offering prayer was standing. Mr. Dillon's next move was equally interesting. After the prayer he read a text from the Bible, then he closed the book and delivered his sermon without the aid of any notes whatsoever. While this course was not exactly heretical, it was new and unheard of. All regularly orthodox sermons were written out at length and then read to the congregation. After the sermon he knelt down again and prayed. Another unheard of procedure. Then he dismissed the meeting, took each one by the hand and said a few words to him. This too, was something new, and we can well understand how this meeting would become the chief topic of conversation in the succeeding weeks.

Mr. Dillon went from Mr. Babcock's to the home of Anson Fairchild, in Granville, and there made an appointment to preach at the home of Deacon David Rose two weeks later. Now Deacon Rose was a Baptist. He had pondered much upon the teachings of the Bible and was one of the prime movers in the Baptist Church recently organized in Granville, but he had no objection to permitting the new preacher to expound the gospel at his home. So the meeting was held according to the previous arrangement, and it was attended not by a few, but by most of the residents in that locality. Probably curiosity was still the feeling which caused many to attend, but interest in the subject moved others to be present.

On this occasion Mr. Dillon's appointment was kept by another itinerant Methodist preacher, one Matthias Swaim. He had the same method of procedure followed by his predecessor. His sermon must have been electrifying, because it at once caused great argu-

ment and feeling ran high. After the service he inquired of Deacon Rose if they wished to make another appointment for another sermon. The good Deacon replied that he liked the preaching, but his brethren did not like to have him open his house to them and he did not like to grieve his brethren. Whereupon Mr. Fairchild said: "Make the appointment at my house," and there the next services were held, and Methodist services continued to be held there for some time.

It must not be thought that this challenge of Methodism was to be allowed to plant the heresies of Arminian doctrine in the midst of orthodoxy without a struggle. Indeed, no. The Rev. Mr. Booge went forth to battle, and appointed a meeting to be held on the same day in the same neighborhood. Surely a new excitement had arrived. Some stayed with the Calvinists and attended their meeting, and some went with the Methodists and attended their meeting. Arguments pro and con were many and heated, but the new heresy would not down, and the hotter the argument the more it flourished. To show how high and bitter the religious feeling was in those days is the following remark made by Rev. Billy Hibbard when he was riding the Granville Circuit in 1801: "Some throw stones at me and some set their dogs on me as I ride along. But the Lord defends me. I never had a stone hit me, nor a dog bite me. Some threatened to whip me, but I escaped it." The last sentence doubtless refers to the ambush laid for him between Westfield and Springfield.

In the spring of 1793, the Methodist meetings were held at the home of Capt. Benjamin Barnes, and the new doctrine was so far successful in making converts that two classes were formed. Capt. Barnes was the leader of one and David Frost was the leader of the other.

The first quarterly meeting of which there is any record was held June 18, 1793, in the barn of Capt. Barnes. Thomas Ware was the Presiding Elder and Joel Ketchum preached the sermon in the afternoon.

In those days a quarterly meeting was an affair of no mean proportions. It was a very common thing for members to go thirty or forty miles to attend such a meeting, and that distance in those days was considerable of an undertaking. It was either horse-back

or farm wagon or on foot. To get an idea of the importance of such a meeting in those days, it is interesting to note that at one such gathering in Granville in 1794, before the Circuit was established, and before the meeting house was built, there were present members from the Methodist congregations in Granville, North Granby, Granby, Turkey Hills, Suffield, Agawam, Bushy Hill, East Worthington, West Worthington, Lee and Tyringham. A very courageous showing for a remote hill-top community.

From the record it appears that later, after Methodism had become firmly rooted in New England and Granville had become one of the great centers of that church, it was a common thing to find members attending quarterly meetings in Granville from churches in the following places: Ashfield, Barrington, Becket, Bethlehem, Blandford, Buckland, Case's Farms, Chester, Conway, Cummington, Feeding Hills, Hartland Hollow, Hartland Hill, Hooppole, Hop Meadow, Horse Hill, Loudon, Montgomery, Northampton, Pittsfield, Sandisfield, Stockbridge, Tatham, Westfield, West Springfield, Windsor and Wintonbury. Not all these members were present at any one time, but usually members from fifteen or twenty places were at every quarterly meeting.

On June 20, 1795, the Granville Circuit with two riders was established, and the church on Beech Hill was the largest and most important on the Circuit. It was therefore the executive center of the Circuit which embraced all of Massachusetts west of the Connecticut River and south of the Deerfield River, as well as a large part of Hartford County in Connecticut. The first stewards of the Granville Circuit were Lewis Ely of Granville, Thomas Hubbard of Lenox and Gideon Allen of Agawam.

Mudge, in his History of the New England Conference, says: "Granville, on the border of Connecticut, southwest of West Springfield, was one of the plantings of the Litchfield Circuit . . . and for several years rivalled or exceeded in fame and numbers the societies in Lynn and Boston. In 1800 it reported 300 members, and in 1810, 352, while Lynn had but 245 and Boston 306." In 1799, however, Pittsfield began to forge ahead of Granville in number of members. In spite of the large membership of the Gran-

ville church, only the following names have been checked as being its members :

Capt. Benjamin Barnes	Lewis Ely
Anah Barnes	David Frost
Edward Bancroft	Esther Frost
Justin Cooley	Rubin Farnum and wife
Gaius Cooley	Dan Robinson's wife
Mrs. O. E. Darling	Anson Fairchild
Thomas Ely	Joel Bancroft
Ebenezer Barnes	

Although the standing order opposed the Methodists, as they had the Baptists, and disputed and preached loudly against them, some were kindly disposed toward the brethren and did them many a good turn. One such instance is well worth recalling. In 1795, when the Granville Circuit was established, Lemuel Smith was one of the riders assigned to that Circuit. He brought his family to Capt. Barnes' to stay a few days until he could find a place for them to live. He set off to look for a place and after spending two days, he returned discouraged, not having found a house he could get for his family. "Now," said the Captain, "you have spent two days among your brethren and cannot find a house. Let us see what an old Presbyterian can do. I know of a shop; we will go and see what can be done with it." They went and found that, with a little repairing, it would make the family comfortable, and they moved in and were comfortably provided for. When it came time to provide hay for his horse, Smith told the Captain he wanted a place to put some hay for his horse. "Oh!" said the Captain, "it will only be a bother; the hay will get all mixed up; you feed your horse, and we will make it all right." So the horse was fed on the Captain's hay. When the Captain made cider, Smith said he wanted a barrel of cider. The Captain told him to take one, but Smith would not take it without paying for it. "Well, then pay for it," said the Captain. So the minister took his cider. In the spring when he was about to remove from Granville, he called on the Captain for his account. "I have no account, except for the barrel of cider," said the Captain. "You said you would pay for that, so you may give me seventy-five cents, that is all."

As the membership grew, there came a need for a building

wherein they could hold their services and quarterly meetings. So in the early part of the year 1797, the timber for a meeting house was cut, and Daniel Bromley, who was then one of the riders on the Granville Circuit, hauled the timber together with his own horse. Francis Hamilton was the master builder. The frame was raised and it was roughly boarded. Compared with the meeting houses of today, it was a pretty crude affair, but it served its purpose and provided a meeting-place for those who preferred that form of worship. It was more than two years before it was finished, and it appears never to have had any steeple or bell, but regardless of what it lacked, it was used as soon as the members could assemble in it and be protected from the storms. The end of the building was toward the road, and it stood on the westerly side of the highway leading from Ripley's Corner to Blandford, and was only a short distance south of the Blandford town line. It was the first Methodist meeting house to be erected in Massachusetts west of the Connecticut River.

At the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Churches, in Baltimore, Maryland, in 1796, the New England Conference was formed, embracing not only all New England, but also that part of New York east of the Hudson River, and part of Canada. The Granville Circuit remained in the New England Conference till 1800, when the New York Conference was formed. The new Conference then embraced all of Massachusetts west of Worcester. The Granville Circuit remained in the New York Conference, being part of the time in the Pittsfield District, part of the time in the Rheinbeck District and part of the time in the Troy District, until 1829, when it was restored to the New England Conference, where it remained until the Circuit was abolished.

The crowning event in the history of this church was the great convocation of New England Methodists when the Third New England Conference was held there September 19, 1798, the first Conference having been held in Lynn, Massachusetts, and the Second in Readeville, Maine, and Wilbraham, Massachusetts, (two sessions). To the Beech Hill section of Granville came the powers of New England Methodism: Bishop Francis Asbury; Jesse Lee, the impetuous southerner, commonly conceded to have been the

Apostle of Methodism to New England, and organizer of twenty-two Circuits in that area; the gifted and eccentric Billy Hibbard, who was assigned to the Granville Circuit one year; Lorenzo Dow, who later became a famous preacher. More than fifty of the most brilliant Methodist preachers were in attendance, as well as exhorters and laymen in great numbers. Just how this great concourse of people was cared for, fed and lodged, does not appear, but it seems as though physical comfort was of so little account that it was considered unworthy to record how they fared. Of course that is just one more unheralded deed of noble women. In connection with this Conference, one little anecdote has been rescued from oblivion.

It seems that David Frost, a prominent member of the church, desired to provide accommodations for the Bishop and the Rev. Lee, as near the meeting house as possible, and thought best, owing to the very scattered homes of Methodists in that neighborhood, to arrange with Deacon Lloyd, a member of the orthodox church, to board the Bishop and Lee during the Conference, because the Deacon had a large and comfortable home. When the time came for the Bishop to go on, Deacon Lloyd took sufficient silver money, which was very scarce in those days, and handed it to Mr. Frost asking him to give it to the Bishop with which to pay the bill for his accommodation. All this left-handed sort of business was done so that the Deacon's family would not know of his contribution to the expenses of the Conference. This little subterfuge was carried out as planned, but as sometimes happens, there was an unexpected flare back. The Deacon's irrepressible boys were heard bragging that their family got silver money for boarding the Bishop.

Many of the facts relating to these early days were set down by Armor Hamilton, probably of Blandford, in 1857 when he was eighty-three years old. He thought he was at that time the only one then living who had worked on the construction of the Beech Hill meeting house.

And so this early Methodist church grew in size and strength, and became one of the corner stones of that faith in this part of the country, being composed of courageous men and fearless women who were zealous for the Kingdom of God.

In their enthusiasm for their church, it had been finally decided that the meeting house should be built partly on land of David Frost and partly on land of Daniel Diver, who owned adjoining farms, very probably because these two men would give the necessary site for little, or no compensation. The fact that the church authorities had no title to this land seems not to have disturbed any one until 1801, when a deed from Diver and Frost was obtained. This deed was given to Anson Fairchild, Gaius Cooley, Joel Bancroft, Amasa Hall, Ebenezer Barnes, Benjamin Barnes, Jr., all of Granville, and Elijah Shepard, of Blandford, to be held by them and their successors in office, in trust for the benefit of the Methodist Church, as set forth in considerable detail in the deed, and if a vacancy should occur in the board of seven trustees, the deed provides how a successor must be chosen, who "must be twenty-one years old and have been a member of the church not less than one year." It is interesting to note that the consideration expressed in the deed is "twenty cents specie," and it is dated March 9, 1801, signed by Daniel Diver and Margaret, his wife, and David Frost and Esther, his wife, all of Granville, and the description of the land is as follows: "a certain piece of ground on which the Methodist Meeting house now stands, being on the line between said Daniel Diver and David Frost's dwelling houses in Granville; beginning at the northeast corner of the Meeting house, thence south parallel with the main road thirty-four feet; thence west parallel with the Meeting house forty-two feet; thence north parallel with said Meeting house thirty-four feet; thence east forty-two feet to the point of beginning." This deed is recorded in Hampshire Registry of Deeds in Volume 40 at page 228.

The church prospered, notwithstanding the facts that its congregation was so very much scattered and that they had to endure the intolerance of the established church and pay the expenses of their own church in addition to the regularly assessed rates for the support of the established church.

Here is an instance of the violence of the religious hostility of those days, told by Armor Hamilton, a member of this church in the days when this incident occurred, and upon whose authority it is here retold. A young man by the name of Norton Loveland and

his sweetheart were living in the Town of Otis. Their parents were members of the Rev. Elihu Buttles' church. Mr. Buttles was a resident of the town and a regularly ordained minister in the Methodist church. This young couple wished him to marry them, and he did so. The Congregational minister entered a complaint against Buttles for illegally performing a marriage ceremony, and he was arrested and fined \$25.00 and costs. (Probably the Justice of the Peace was an orthodox Congregationalist.) This caused much feeling in Town, and when it came time to choose a representative to the General Court, Mr. Buttles was elected and instructed to petition the legislature to have the fine remitted and the law changed so that such a thing could not happen again. Both of which the legislature did.

Although the times were difficult and the members scattered, the Beech Hill church bore its fair share of the expenses of preaching there. Collections were made at every quarterly meeting for the support of the New England Conference, to which the Granville Circuit then belonged. The first one we have a record of was in 1794, when £ 1, 16s, 4d, was taken. This amount seems small to us who are only familiar with our own environment, but when one considers the economic status of rural hill towns in New England in the late years of the eighteenth century, that sum assumes quite different proportions. Then money was scarce and hard to get. At three quarterly meetings in 1797, the sums of £ 2, 3s, 8d, £ 2, 8s, 2½d, and £ 2, 17s, 9d, were received. At a meeting held one Sabbath at a private house in Granville, the collection amounted to 15s, 1d. After 1800 the money is noted in dollars and cents. One quarterly meeting collection in 1804 was \$6.71, and in 1812 it had risen to \$8.13.

About this time the fertile lands in western New York and Ohio beckoned so strongly to the people of New England that many followed the trail of that courageous party which left Granville in 1805. The Beech Hill church, as well as other churches, felt the drain and slowly but steadily its membership became reduced and it came to be just a small hill church. The Granville Circuit was travelled until about 1840, and thereafter Beech Hill was supplied, sometimes from Otis, and sometimes from Becket. After 1849

Beech Hill was detached from the New England Conference. Finally, so many of its members had gone to the west or had died that preaching became only intermittent and at last ceased altogether. Rev. W. H. Adams was their last regular preacher. This was in 1869.

Then came the last sad chapter. The old meeting house which had withstood the storms of nature and the detractions of critics finally began to yield to the onslaughts of the weather. Its roof began to leak and from that time its dissolution was rapid. Soon part of the roof fell in and finally some boy, or boys, who lived near by, set fire to the old landmark one Fourth of July. Its career had wound up in a blaze of glory. Its record then was history. This stroke of fate fell about 1879. Thus passed from physical vision one of the militant outposts of the Methodist Episcopal Church, but its memory still survives as one of the cherished recollections of this historic old Town.

Two visible, tangible reminders of this old church remain. One, an old violin, the other, the original door step of the old meeting house. When the charred wreckage was torn down, some of the material of which it was made was saved by the late Horace Ripley and was by him made into a violin which is now in the possession of the New England Methodist Historical Society. This old instrument bears the following inscription: "The wood of this violin made of the old church by Horace Ripley." The original door step of the old meeting house is a large slab of granite and it lies on the ground just as it was used at the entrance of the old building. Upon this door step has been erected a large granite boulder bearing a bronze tablet having this inscription:

On this spot was erected in 1797 the
first Methodist Episcopal Church
west of the Connecticut River.

Here Rev. Francis Asbury and
Rev. Jesse Lee held the third
New England annual Conference
September 19, 1798.

Erected Sept. 19, 1907.

This tablet was unveiled with due ceremonies, upon which occasion the same Bible was used that had been used when the meeting house was built in 1797. The original foundation of the building is still mostly in place so that the outline of the ancient structure can easily be traced, and when standing before this ancient door step one may reverently pause and reflect that the hardy and brave men and women who wrought here are our ancestors, and that this heritage belongs to *us*.

The views of citizens of Granville upon some subjects were as divergent one hundred years ago as they are today and the subject of temperance was discussed quite as freely as in the days of the Eighteenth Amendment. In northern and western Granville, agitation upon the subject came to a head November 16, 1833, when a meeting was held in Otis, at which residents of Granville were present, together with representatives from Otis and Blandford, and the Society of the Granville Circuit for the Promotion of Temperance was formed and a constitution adopted. The purpose of the Society was stated to be "for the promotion of temperance on this Circuit." A fleeting glimpse of what this considerable number of people thought of the bibulous conditions then prevailing may be had from part of the preamble to their constitution. It says: "Whereas the intemperate use of ardent spirits is one of the greatest evils that are affecting the community . . ." The following is a list of the names of residents of Granville who signed the constitution and became members:

Marilla Baldwin
Abigail Barnes
Benjamin Barnes
Charles C. Barnes
Adam Blair, Jr.
Clarissa Blair
Cuema Blair
Emily F. Blair
James C. Blair
Joseph L. Blair
Leicester H. Blair
Linus Blair
Mary T. Blair
Nancy A. Blair

Otis F. Blair
Patty Blair
Patty Blair
Charles Church
John Church
Loviah Church
Jane M. Diver
Lucinda Farnum
Matthias Farnum
Justin Farnum
Salome Gowdy
Curtis Hall
Joel Hall
Phebe Hall

Rachael Hall	Rowland Noble
Rachael Hall	Roxeny Noble
Molly Hamilton	Silas Noble
Rev. Philo Hawkes	Wealthy T. Noble
Denison C. Healy	Eliza W. Oatley
Cynthia Knox	Joseph Oatley
Harriet Knox	Almon Peebles
Almira Moore	Emeline P. Richards
Henry Moore	Abigail Ripley
Elsey Nichols	Elizabeth Ripley
Maria Nichols	David F. Robinson
Abigail Noble	Rhoda Robinson
Huldah M. Noble	Celestina Smith
Lucinda A. Noble	George S. Stannard
Melanthy D. Noble	Hannah Wadhams
Henry B. Wadhams	

The Society had 213 members, 76 men and 137 women. Thus we can see that the question of temperance was a real live issue.

The West Parish Church (Tolland)

As noted on a previous page, some of the residents of the West Parish, now Tolland, organized a church in that Parish in 1797. This, however, was not a new idea at that time. It had been in the minds of their leaders for several years. Even as early as 1791, it was planned to have their own church and their own meeting house. They went so far as to select and acquire a site for their house of worship, because in that year Titus Fowler, John Hamilton and Abraham Granger, describing themselves as a "Committee of the West Parish" took a deed from Westol Scoville, Jr., of an irregular shaped piece of land at the southeast corner of his home lot described as follows: "beginning at the southeast corner and to run west twelve and one half rods; then northerly seven rods on my land; then east six rods to the County road; then south ten rods on said County road to the place of beginning; said land was bought for to set a Meeting House on, to be the property of the said West Parish in Granville for public use." This deed is dated February 17, 1791, and is recorded in Hampshire Registry of Deeds in Volume 68 at page 191. For some curious reason not now apparent, it was not recorded for more than thirty years after its date.

Having secured their site, the next thing was to provide a meeting house. It should be borne in mind that the residents of the West Parish were farmers and were not conspicuously well to do. Furthermore, the burden of the depression following the War for Independence rested quite heavily upon them. So it is not astonishing that it took a few years to prepare for the considerable expense and effort involved in building a new meeting house. This, however, was accomplished and in 1795 the new house was so far finished as to be usable. This first meeting house did not stand where the present one stands, but was further to the southeast. It was on the triangular green in the fork between the roads leading to New Boston and to Otis. It stood there until 1841, when it had fallen into a sad state of dilapidation. In that year it was taken down and rebuilt, somewhat enlarged, on the site where it now stands. The present meeting house was completed in 1842.

Events moved slowly but surely in West Granville, now Tolland, in those days, and it was not until 1797 that a council was called and a church officially organized. In the *Granville Jubilee*, page 44, it appears that the following were chosen as Deacons at the time of organization: Thomas Twining, Marvin Moore, Silas Knight, William Freeman, Warren Gates, Philo Smith, Erwin L. Tucker and Elizur D. Moore. Without doubt this list is correct, but the original records of the church are so fragmentary that it cannot be checked. This young church was now ready to function and promptly set about finding a minister to serve them. The names of the original members of this church, appearing in the handwriting of Rev. Mr. Harrison, are as follows:

Thomas Twining and wife	Jabez Rogers and wife
Elijah Twining and wife	Azariah Mather and wife
William Twining and wife	Marvin P. Moore and wife
William Twining	David Wright
Eleazer Twining	the wife of Robert Hamilton
the widow Suviah Rogers	

They had the good fortune to come in contact with one Roger Harrison, a young preacher who had studied theology in southern Connecticut, and in 1795 had been licensed to preach. He was born February 2, 1769, in what is now North Branford, Connecticut,

being the third child of Samuel Harrison, Jr., of that place. He attended Yale College and graduated there in 1791. So far as can at this late day be discovered, the West Granville Parish was his first pastorate. A call was extended to him and it was accepted, to the mutual profit of both parties. He was ordained and installed, according to his own statement, January 23, 1798, but according to Dr. Timothy M. Cooley, January 13, 1799. One would expect Dr. Cooley to be correct, but the date he gives is clearly an error, probably made by the type-setter of the *Granville Jubilee*. Mr. Harrison came to West Granville and settled down to be the spiritual leader of those people. How successfully he accomplished his task is indicated by the fact that he served his flock nearly thirty years faithfully and acceptably. His particular strong point was his remarkable voice and musical ability. It was said that he could sing anything. It is well known that he wrote sundry hymns and the music to which they were sung. Some of his hymns were quite popular. He served on the town School Committee for more than ten years, until West Granville was set off as a separate town. The School Committee during that period was composed of the three ministers, Dr. Cooley, Mr. Baker and Mr. Harrison. They were directly responsible for so many of the boys who were born and raised on the Granville hills going on to the fields of higher education. As a team of ministers this trio was hard to beat. Dr. Cooley could excel in convincing sermons, Mr. Baker could make a prayer to be remembered, and Mr. Harrison was a singer in the class with the late Ira D. Sankey. They all had the ability to lead and teach these serious people who wrung a living out of the rock ribbed hills. Sometimes they had a season of religious revival. One such was held in Mr. Harrison's church in 1806 which resulted in the addition of thirty-six members to his church.

Mr. Harrison was in the full vigor of his ministry when the West Parish became the Town of Tolland in 1810. He finally was dismissed and severed his connection with the church in March, 1827, but continued to serve the Town in various ways during the rest of his life. He was at different times, their post master, their Town Clerk and their representative to the General Court. He was married twice and at his death left one son. He lived in the two-

story frame house on the south side of the main east and west road through the village. He died in Tolland August 31, 1853, at the ripe old age of 84 years.

The Universalist Church

Religious life in New England in the first half of the last century was stern, rigorous and unbending. The orthodox church, unmindful of the fact that repression breeds discontent, combatted all new and liberal ideas, such as the tenets of the Methodists on the one hand, and the tenets of the Baptists on the other. Any relaxation of the early Puritanical austerity was due to meet strong opposition. By the middle of the century, Congregational churches were beginning to be more liberal, but most Baptist churches were still unbending and were described colloquially as "hard shelled." In an atmosphere of such religious severity, it was inevitable that groups of liberals should arise; groups having an equal faith, but a milder and broader outlook upon life. So it naturally came about that Universalist churches began to appear in this stronghold of orthodoxy.

Granville, being a normal New England town, also felt the urge to a more liberal conception of religion. Some there were who were members of, or had attended, Universalist churches elsewhere, and others who had become dissatisfied with the narrow doctrines of the local churches, and were unwilling longer to subscribe to all their requirements. This condition must have existed for many years, but just when it began to take form does not appear. It is certain, however, that the Universalists were quite numerous here and active as early as 1854, and probably before that date, because in the diary of a Universalist lady of that time is a notation that on September 17, 1854, Universalist services were held in the Northeast school house. And again on November 26, of that year, that services were held in the Academy Hall, where they were held thereafter until their meeting house was available some fourteen years later. These services seem to have been held intermittently for a time, but later with considerable regularity.

On February 23, 1858, the ladies of this group organized a Ladies' Sewing Circle which was very much of a success, for it is

recorded that frequently sixty, and sometimes seventy, women were present when this Circle had its regular meetings which were held around at the homes of the various members. On May 30, of that year, a Universalist Sunday School was organized.

The affairs of this group appear to have been going on vigorously and successfully until they were checked by the breaking out of the Civil War, which slowed down their activities, so that it was not until June 19, 1866, that most of those in the east part of the Town having Universalist leanings met at the home of Nelson Godard, and voted "to organize a legal Universalist Society in this Town," and in a very business-like way a committee was chosen to secure a warrant for the calling of a meeting to that end. And further, another committee of five was chosen to secure ways and means "to build a Universalist church in this place." Application for the necessary warrant to convene a legal meeting was made the next day to Rowland H. Barlow, a Justice of the Peace, who duly issued the proper document and designated July 5th as the time and Tinker's Hall as the place for this first meeting. It was served by personal notice to all the Universalists in the vicinity. Tinker's Hall was in the same building with a hotel and store operated by Frank A. Tinker on the site where Gibbons store now stands. At the meeting on July 5th, officers were elected and the Society was duly organized and it was voted "to call this Society the First Universalist Society in Granville" and a committee was chosen to select a site upon which to erect their meeting house. A constitution prepared by Ansel D. King was adopted. The list of the original members of the church has not survived and the only substitute for it seems to be the list of those who signed the petition for the warrant which called the first official meeting when the constitution was adopted. It is as follows:

James H. Gibbons
Salem P. Rose
Lyman Smith
Melville F. Clark
George T. King
Goodwin Brown
Edgar Holcomb
Justus Rose

John M. Gibbons
Ely Strong
Martin T. Gibbons
Elizur M. Pomeroy
Adolph Bruch
Edward Holcomb
Linus O. Gibbons
Henry W. Tryon

John C. Carpenter

It will be noted that the petitioners were all men. It is rather inconceivable that a church would be organized and established without any women members, so it is submitted that the above list is far from being a complete list of the original members of this church. The record shows that Ansel D. King, Nelson Godard and DeEtte Godard, his wife, were very active in organizing the church, and they were without doubt, together with others, among the original members.

Such rapid progress was made by this young Society that on July 25th a building committee was chosen consisting of Melville F. Clark, William Moore, Edgar Holcomb, Edward Holcomb, John M. Gibbons, William Wells, Orland Gibbons and Ansel D. King. This committee had such success in performing its preliminary duties that the Society voted on October 15th "to proceed to build a (meeting) House forthwith." No delay occurred in securing a site. A deed for the same was obtained from Nelson Godard and wife conveying the plot of land upon which the meeting house now stands. It is dated October 23, 1866, and conveys a certain plot of land "for the purpose of building a church edifice thereon and for no other, beginning on the highway at the southwest corner of Betsey Barlow's house lot, thence northerly on land of said Barlow seventy-two feet; thence westerly forty-eight feet; thence southerly seventy-two feet to the highway; thence easterly on the highway forty-eight feet to the place of beginning; containing thirteen rods more or less." This deed is recorded in Hampden Registry of Deeds in Volume 251 at page 576.

Work on the foundation began October 30th and went on apace. In the winter of 1866-67 the timber, some of which was hewed and some of which was sawed, was made ready. Boards were secured and shingles obtained. On April 11, 1867 the frame was raised, but before it could be roofed over and boarded in, a wind of hurricane violence arose on May 1st and blew down the newly erected timbers, frightening the occupants of the Barlow house, next east of the meeting house, nearly out of their wits. This misfortune was a delay, but not a damper, to the enterprise. On the 4th, some of the leading men of the church went to the scene of the disaster and sorted out all the material which could be salvaged, and the re-erection of the

framework was begun. On June 28th this had been completed. The building was ready for use early the next year when the finishing touches were completed by the placing of the window blinds. It was dedicated April 15, 1868. The bell was not acquired until 1885 when it was installed with ceremony and a picnic in the rear of Gibbons store on July 4th.

That the women of the church were responsible in no small degree for the success in establishing this church appears from an entry in the record which states that the Ladies' Sewing Circle, an organization within the church, on May 23, 1868, paid the sum of \$617.73 "toward the church." To have accomplished what this church did in less than two years is a record little short of astounding, especially is this so when one considers the small membership.

The Rev. C. H. Webster, of Granby, Connecticut, was very active among the Universalists and was said by some to have been the energizing force which started this church on its way, and in one place he is referred to as "our pastor," but neither recollection nor record discloses that he was ever settled over this church as a regular pastor.

But the race is not always to the swift. The perennial misfortunes of life soon beset this little church. Some of its members died; some removed elsewhere; and all grew older, whereby the irresistible surge of middle life was slowed down. Others did not come forward to carry the increasingly heavy burden. It is believed that this church had only one regularly settled pastor, Rev. Selwyn T. Nye, who served the church about three years, and that its preaching services were at all other times conducted by a supply from other places. As the years passed, services were held less and less frequently until about 1881 when the then newly organized Methodist Episcopal Church made arrangements to use the meeting house half the time. Later Universalist services were given up altogether and the Methodists used the meeting house until 1915, when they too, ceased to conduct religious services there. The building was then unused until the Town Hall was condemned, when the use of the meeting house was offered to the Town until it could provide a suitable place in which to transact the Town's business. The annual Town meeting in 1916 was held in the meeting house, as were all subsequent Town

meetings until September, 1927, when the new Town Hall was dedicated. Since that time it has been unused. The number of the members of this church has been reduced to a scant half dozen.

The Methodist Church (Granville)

Methodism had been more or less in abeyance in Granville ever since the church on Beech Hill had passed out of existence. This does not mean that there were none of that persuasion in town. There had been a few scattered down through the years, members of churches elsewhere, but residing in Granville, and all they needed was a spark to galvanize them into activity. It so happened that the Fortieth Annual Session of the New England Conference, held from March 31 to April 6, 1880, in Boston was the vitalizer. Immediately after that Conference, a few of the Granville Methodists met to discuss the proposition of establishing a church in town. Ways and means were considered and an informal committee took the matter up with the Presiding Elder of the District, Rev. D. H. Ela, and obtained his consent to go ahead. They next waited on the Rev. L. White, who was then stationed at Mundale, and secured his services. Then arrangements were made with the Universalist Society in Granville to use their meeting house every other Sunday. They were then all set to try their experiment.

As a rule, Methodists are not a lukewarm lot, and this little group was no exception to the general run. By means of hard work and no small amount of personal sacrifices, they set their shoulders to the wheel. They established a Sunday School; also a Ladies' (Aid) Society; then they collected the nucleus of a library. They seemed to be rugged enough to withstand the ordinary set-backs of life, so on February 15, 1881, they formally organized their church, with the following charter members:

Samuel Davis
Mary A. Davis
Edward A. Collins
Dryden P. Collins
Lavinia C. Collins
George W. Peck

James H. Andrews
Sybil Andrews
Harvey B. Stever
Annie A. Stever
Almira O. Clark
Betsey Rose

This church was always a small group, but it was quite active. In 1882 the membership of its Sunday School had grown to the number of seventy, and the members of the church in 1885 numbered forty-five, and in 1890 the number had risen to ninety. The church was never large enough to support its own minister and it usually combined with the parish at Mundale, although twice it was united with the parish at Southwick.

An interesting side light on the character of the women of this Methodist church appears in the Secretary's record of the meetings of the Ladies' Sewing Society which was formed May 26, 1880, by members soon after the church was organized. They were earnest, serious minded, austere and Calvinistic to the last degree, as appears by the following excerpt from the rules which were adopted at that meeting: "They shall not have any Frosted Cake, and no Frosted Pie and not any Preserves. There shall be no Table set and That each one shall bring Plate, Cup and Saucer, Knife and Fork." As if to indicate that these rules meant business, this came next: "Any one breaking over these Rules shall be fined 25 cents."

The ideas of those good ladies about sociability were not much like the ideas of the present generation about afternoon teas, but they were just as happy as we. The record states that the attendance at their regular bi-weekly meetings varied from thirty-five to eighty, depending upon the weather and the time of year.

As time passed, the need arose for facilities to meet the demand for social work. A conveniently located and sufficiently commodious building was found and purchased in 1884 by Mrs. Lavinia M. Beach who generously gave it to the church. Later it was enlarged and equipped for socials, church suppers and various entertainments given by the church. This building, now known as Grange Hall, was the center of its social life until the church ceased to function.

Of the ministers serving this church, two were conspicuous for the success of their labors. The Rev. Elwin Hitchcock, the second pastor serving the church, was an important factor in getting the little church to functioning and building up the membership, and the Rev. Edgar A. Brownell, whose practical christianity endeared him to the entire community and was an uplift to the whole Town.

Another noteworthy fact in connection with this church is that

its choir was led by the late Miles J. Rose from the time the church was established until his death in 1915, and that his wife was the organist during the same period. Mr. Rose had an unusually clear and strong tenor voice and under his direction the choir maintained a position far above the average of the ordinary country choir.

A rather unusual fate overtook this church. It succumbed, not for lack of funds, but for lack of members. The younger ones went to other places far and wide, and the older ones died. This resulted in the enfeeblement of the church, which became progressive, and when their numbers were reduced to a very few, they yielded to the inevitable and ceased to continue in 1922. In all its more than forty years of existence, it had worshipped in the Universalist meeting house, never having had one of its own.

The Federated Church

The passage of time works many unexpected changes. One hundred and fifty years ago, schisms in churches were not uncommon. If a group of church members let their beliefs wander from the channels of orthodoxy, the inevitable result was that they organized themselves into a new church body of kindred believers and two churches existed where only one had been before.

In the early part of the present century, the tendency was otherwise. Churches in rural areas which found it difficult to continue were willing to unite with one or more of the neighboring churches, and by this procedure the church in a community would be strengthened and become more of a church influence. Instead of there being more weak churches, there came to be fewer and stronger organizations.

In due time this condition manifested itself in Granville with the result that in July, 1937, the First Church of Christ in Granville and the Granville Baptist Church decided to pool their resources and formed the Federated Church of Granville. Under the terms of the federation, each church keeps its own identity in order to retain the use of certain funds, and the Federated Church is the operational body. One minister serves the community formerly served by two. Services are held in the Congregational meeting house

on the Hill during the summer season and in the Baptist meeting house the remainder of the year. The federation has thus far been very successful and the Federated Church has become a community affair.

Other Religious Denominations

Religious services of other denominations have been held in Granville at infrequent intervals, but not, so far as can be learned, continuously for any considerable period. For a few years Roman Catholic services were held once a month in the old Academy Building in Granville Center. Then too, there was a period along in the 1880's when a group of residents became interested in Spiritualism and seances were held at the homes of those who were mystically inclined.

After the Danish residents had become established here, Lutheran services were quite frequently held at the homes of members of that denomination, although at intervals they used the Universalist meeting house.

The Schools

THE beginnings of Granville's school system have not come down to us. However, we know certain facts concerning these beginnings. The eastern part of the area formerly called Bedford began to be occupied by settlers in the latter part of the 1730's; the central part in the 1740's; and the western part in the 1750's. Some of these pioneers had children before they came to Bedford, others had them after coming. It cannot be thought that these early settlers, coming from the sturdy Puritan stock from which they were descended, would overlook and neglect the education of their children. Care for their schools followed close upon care for their church. So although there appears to be no record of schools or school affairs in Bedford, or in the earliest years of the District of Granville, it is certain that this phase of their life was adequately provided for, because at the annual meeting of the District on March 8, 1762, the sum of £20 was to be raised to support "schooling" in the District of Granville, and this sum was to be "distributed into several of said districts for the benefit of the whole." Thus it appears that in 1762 there then existed school districts, but how long they had been in existence, or when they sprang up, does not appear. But how many there were is settled by the vote of the following year when it was determined that the money raised that year (1763) should be divided as follows:—

Southeast District	£3—15s	First District	£6— 0s
Northeast District	1—11	Second District	3— 0
Middle District	3—18	Third District	1—16

Just where these individual districts were is not of such great consequence, except so far as their names may indicate their whereabouts, but the necessary implication to be derived from the foregoing is important. One sees that the burden of raising funds for carrying on the schools was upon the District of Granville, and all the other school duties, engaging teachers, maintaining school houses, and spending the money, was upon the school districts. Thus we see the start of that curious, and probably unique, school system

which was to encumber Granville for more than a century. Its weakness is at once apparent. Almost at once, difficulties of the system began to present themselves. There arose a demand for another school house and consequently more or less pulling and hauling as to where it should be located. Those who wanted it near the then only meeting house in the District took it to a District meeting on February 3, 1764, and the Selectmen finally approved their location near the "Grate Rock."

So a few years passed with Granville raising the money and the school committees spending it. Soon, however, the incongruity of the situation began to dawn on these taxpayers, for when a demand was made for a somewhat higher degree of "schooling," and it was decided to have the grammar school studies taught, the good taxpayers took away some of the power of the school committees, and at a meeting August 1, 1769, voted that "Nathan Barlo, grand juror, shall appoint times when Grammar School shall be kept in each district." Apparently this plan did not work out to everybody's satisfaction, for a little later, at the annual meeting on March 16, 1772, it was voted that "the selectmen have the whole business of the schools in Granville, as to teacher, times, places and money for the ensuing year." So the school district committees were practically shorn of all their authority, and this condition of things lasted for a quarter of a century.

If the amount of money raised by taxation in Granville is of moment, and if it gives any idea of the relative importance of affairs of church, school and town, the appropriations made at the annual meeting March 22, 1774, are significant. This was the last year when such matters were not affected by the approaching War for Independence. In that year there was raised for Rev. Mr. Smith £55; for schools £40; for expenses of conducting the other affairs of the District £25.

During the Revolution, all public affairs were subordinated to the main business of the war. To be sure the schools were maintained after a fashion, but they no longer occupied even the second place in public attention. They just got along as they could.

After the war was over and economic and social conditions became more settled, and business functioned with less disturbance,

Granville's schools benefited by the new order which had gradually grown up. The Town still continued to raise the money for support of the schools, but the selectmen had no more to do with them, for in 1797 there was chosen a Town School Committee. This first Town Committee consisted of John Phelps, who lived in the Middle Parish, a man of education, a lawyer who was later to be the first Sheriff of Hampden County; Bela Scoville, who lived in the West Parish; and Timothy M. Cooley, of whom much has been said hereinbefore, who lived in the East Parish, and was to be a member for more than fifty years. Whether or not this idea of a Town School Committee was one put into effect by the young minister, as it well may have been, it was a step in advance. This was the first indication of order in the then much muddled manner of conducting the school business. After a few years the School Committee consisted of the pastors of the three Parishes, Rev. Timothy M. Cooley, Rev. Aaron J. Booge and Rev. Roger Harrison, which was of great benefit to the schools, for their affairs then began to be conducted in a systematic and methodical manner. One of the first things they did was to establish and define the limits of each school district. These various districts had theretofore been only vague areas, and many arguments, and some hard feelings, arose out of this uncertainty. It was in May, 1802, when the skillful hand of Dr. Cooley made this move. The number of districts had increased from six in 1763 to thirteen in 1802. The names by which the various districts were designated then are very generally the names used for that purpose as long as the districts existed. In the East Parish there were five districts; Meeting House, South Lane, North Lane, Northeast and Southeast. In the Middle Parish there were five; Ore Hill, Beech Hill, Capt. Barnes, North Lane and South Lane. In the West Parish there were three; Meeting House, Northeast and Northwest. On April 7, 1806, the district known as the Southwest Quarter was established and in the following month another district was established in the northwest corner of the Town. On November 7, 1808, the Ore Hill district was divided into two. On April 3, 1815, the Stow district was set off and established.

So, as the Town grew in population and wealth, the school system

grew to keep pace. It was inevitable that some districts should come to have more scholars than others, and equally inevitable that some districts should come to have a larger grand list than others. All of which led directly to argument, and sometimes very heated argument, as to how the money raised by the Town for school purposes should be divided among the districts. What basis should be used in making the division of the Town money? Should it be divided according to the whole number of scholars in the several districts, which was colloquially termed "on the scholar," or should it be divided according to the grand lists of the different districts, which was called "on the list"? The more populous districts wanted it to be divided "on the scholar" and the wealthier districts wanted it divided "on the list." Naturally. This was bound to be a perennial source of conflict. The first definite attempt to settle the argument on this point was made at the annual meeting April 4, 1825, when it was voted "to distribute the school money to each district pro rata for the school children on May 1st, from four to sixteen years of age." And it was further voted to have a committee to take a census of the school children. Thus we can see order coming out of chaos, but the awkward method of Town Committee and district committees still obtained.

It is of interest to note how much money was being raised for the schools about this time. In 1836, one hundred years after the settlement of the Town, the sum raised for school purposes was \$500.00, and at the annual Town meeting March 5, 1838, it was voted that all the money raised for school purposes should go for wages of the teachers. This was merely a manifestation of the old desire of the taxpayers to force the school districts to pay part of their own expenses, and the desire of the school districts to get all their school expenses out of the Town money. This demonstrates one of the weaknesses of the curious school system then prevailing. At that same Town meeting, it was voted to apportion the school money, one half of it "on the scholar" and the other half "on the list."

In another couple of years, the next move came in this continuous backing and filling. It came at the annual Town meeting March 16, 1840, when it was voted that all school districts must choose their

own committees. It looks as though the districts had been trying to throw off upon the Town School Committee all their minor duties, such as furnishing wood for the winter fires, repairing the school houses, providing for the board of the teachers, etc., and that one way in which they sought to evade these duties was not to elect any committees.

By 1854, one hundred years after the Town was incorporated as a District, the population had declined so much from its high point, about 1830, that the number of scholars to be instructed was materially less, and though the sum of \$500.00 raised in that year for schools was no greater than the sum raised twenty years before, the sum per scholar was greater, because there were fewer scholars. Fortunately some of the school census figures have survived, and though few, they will suffice to show what was happening to the Granville schools.

Scholars in West Granville by districts.

	1840	1846	1851	1857
Ore Hill	65	66	43	33
Beech Hill	33	24	20	24
South Lane	42	42	31	19
Northwest	20	24	25	10
South	14		20	13
	174	156	139	99

School census figures for the districts in East Granville are not available for complete comparison, but the figures for the years 1846 and 1857 will serve to show the relative numbers in the two parts of the Town.

	1846	1857
Northeast District	53	31
Southeast District	52	40
Center District	53	34
Southwest District	41	11
Northwest District	42	43
Stow District	6	9
	247	168

Thus it will be seen that the total number of scholars in Granville

between the ages of four and sixteen years in 1846 was 403, and the number had been much larger forty years earlier. In 1857 the number had dropped to 267.

A few notations taken from the record of the Ore Hill School District covering the period from September 24, 1806, to November 1, 1814, will give a glimpse of that school at that time. It was during this period that this district was divided into two. The Town had voted to make this division November 7, 1808, but from the district record it seems not to have been accomplished until some years later. At a meeting at the school house September 24, 1806, it was voted "to raise \$16.00 for wood at a Dollar per cord." At another meeting October 22, 1807, it was voted "to build a school house and set it on Mr. Hezekiah Parsons' garden near the west end of the stone wall, it to be one story high with two chimneys and to be 20 feet by 30 feet and arched over head." And further "to raise \$400.00 for the purpose and \$50.00 additional to be paid in work and materials." The materials were to be paid in by March 1, and the cash by June 1. Levi Curtiss, Perry Babcock, Joel Parsons, Charles Curtiss and Nathan Parsons were chosen to be the building committee. Whether this building was an additional school house for the district, or was to take the place of one outgrown or destroyed by fire, is not at all clear.

At another meeting October 21, 1811, it was voted "to get $\frac{1}{2}$ a cord of wood to each Scholler." And to inject a little excitement into an otherwise dull session, it was voted "to Draw for the getting of the wood." The name of the loser in this gamble does not appear. Further, it was voted that "if $\frac{1}{2}$ cord per schollar" was not enough, then the committee was to get the balance.

At a meeting February 17, 1814, it was voted that the District Committee "save the *Remains of the Late School House*," and that "the Committees of the *two* Schools divide the wood." This vote would seem to indicate that the school house in the Ore Hill district had either been torn down or else partly destroyed by fire. In any event, Ore Hill was due to have one school house at least. In those days, even as now, the building of a school house was a task of no small difficulty.

At a meeting July 7, 1814, it was voted to build a school house

on the southeast corner of Hezekiah Robinson's land and to level off the ground where "the *late school house* stood" and build a house without a fire place, and build it twenty feet by twenty-four feet with "a porch in front about four feet square." This building was to be nine feet between floors and to be finished by November 15, 1814. Also it was voted "to bid off the building of the house at vandue at the loest bidder." The committee was to get bids.

At a meeting on August 1, 1814, it was voted to raise money enough to pay the entire expense of building, and pay it in by November 1, 1814. It is very likely that the land on which the school house actually stood was given by the owner, upon the condition that when it ceased to be used for school purposes, it was to revert to the donor or his heirs. That was the custom in those days.

The situation was quite different in the then called "Meeting House School District" in East Granville where Israel Parsons gave a deed of a site for a school house to the Inhabitants of the Meeting House School District, dated June 18, 1816, which had a rather unsatisfactory description of the land given. It is stated to be "a piece of land in said District on the southwest corner of my Heater Lot, so-called, on which the new school house stands." There is nothing to indicate whether the area conveyed is large or small. This deed is recorded in Hampden Registry of Deeds in Volume 69 at page 343. The school house which stood on this land described in the Parsons deed is incorporated as a part of the house formerly occupied by Charles Flagg. It is the ell part extending toward the north from the main part of the house.

The records of the Northeast district, which in the early part of the nineteenth century was one of the large districts in town, if not the largest, throw more light on the schools. The records of this district appear to have been first kept in a book devoted to that purpose in 1824. Prior to that time, in some other districts at least, and very likely here as well, the record of each school meeting would be written out on a sheet of paper. If the district clerk was careful and methodical, the various record sheets would be kept together; but if he was not of that type, such single sheets would never be where they should be, and would soon be lost and gone. Without doubt

no written record ever existed of the earliest school meetings. This record of the Northeast district tells the story of that school from 1824 to 1857. The location of the first school house in that district is not now known, but the school building in use in 1824 was in all probability on the same spot, or very near the spot, where the school house built in 1854 or 1855 stood. It was a typical little red school house and it was situated on a knoll on the east side of the then used road near the Alanson Warner place, so-called. The school house in use in 1824 was heated by a fire-place and must have been far from being a new building, because its need for repairs was one of the subjects brought up at every meeting. The money to pay for such repairs was raised by a tax "on the schollar," as the clerk stated in the vote. This tax was laid by a committee chosen for that purpose and was collected by the district collector. The business of the school districts was conducted similarly to the business of the Town.

In addition to the ever present need for repairs, the matter of fuel was always needing attention. Of course the fuel was wood, but it had to be provided for; the amount needed must be fixed, the price per cord, the length of the stick, etc. Sometimes the man who furnished the wood would not pile it up, or would not throw it into the shed. And then it seems that sometimes the measure would be short, or it would be of a poorer quality than bargained for, so that every year a committee was chosen to "inspect the wood" and see that it conformed to the bid. The prevailing method of fixing the price was by auctioning it off to the lowest bidder at the school meeting. In 1824 it was bid off for seventy-five cents per cord. In 1826 it was to be furnished by the families sending scholars to the school. That year the supply was to be " $\frac{3}{4}$ of a chord for a scholar" and those who failed to furnish their quota were to have the value of their share added to their school tax. In 1831 it was bid off at fifty-nine cents per cord. The next year it was fifty-eight cents. In 1851 it was struck off at forty-five cents per cord for eighteen inch wood. In 1856 it was forty-eight cents. The length of the wood was undoubtedly made to accommodate the stoves which were in use after the days of the fireplace.

On September 15, 1831, it was voted "to *hire* a stove for the

ensuing winter with the privilege of returning it or buying it." Apparently this new fangled heating apparatus gave good satisfaction, for the next year the district voted to buy it and the pipe for \$26.46, and to raise the money to pay for it by a tax "on the scholar." After a few years, however, this stove had served its purpose and was past its useful days, for on December 31, 1838, (a real nice time to have the heating plant break down) it was voted "to put a box stove in the school house, and sell the old stove and *andirons*."

The chief duty of the district committee was to fix the terms of the school and hire the teachers, when the Town committee did not usurp these functions. There were usually only two terms in a year; summer term and winter term, and their length was ordinarily determined by the amount of money received from the Town. The winter term was three or four months long, beginning quite generally the first Monday in November. In this district (the Northeast) in 1824 it was voted to use two-thirds of the Town money for the winter term and to have a summer term to last as long as the money held out. The committee was usually composed of one. In 1830 it was voted that "the Committee hire a school dame" for the summer term, which was to run as long as the money lasted. In 1836 it was voted "to hire a man three months," but "if a female, then four months," and to hire the female boarded. For the winter term of 1837-8 a woman teacher was had. Theretofore only a man had been employed, as it was thought only a man could handle the scholars, some of whom were twenty years or more of age. In 1845 it was voted to have the committee hire teachers upon the condition "that they shall leave if the district is dissatisfied." In 1853 it was voted "that the Comttee hire teachers on condition that if he or she does not give general satisfaction, the teacher shall leave and the Comt. shall Lock up the house." There is no room for doubt about the meaning of that vote.

The pay these teachers received for their labors is of interest. In 1834 this district paid Mr. William Baker "for instructing school three months" \$27.00. In 1846 the district paid three dollars a week for a man teacher. In 1847 they paid for teaching twenty weeks in the summer \$1.75 per week, and for the board of this

teacher \$6.95. She may have been slender and a light eater. In 1848 it was voted "that the teacher board about the district sabbaths and through the term, and have no bills brought in for board." It seems to have been usual that the teacher should "board around" in the families which sent children to school.

These people were interested in their schools and proposed to see to it that they got what they were supposed to have. Every year there was chosen a committee, usually five in number, to visit the schools, because at this time such a thing as a Town superintendent had never been thought of, and lest the visiting committee should be disposed to make fewer visitations, it was frequently voted how many times during the year such visits should be made.

Boys could get into mischief one hundred years ago just as easily as they can now, and the Northeast district apparently had its share of that type of children, for we find that in 1834 it was voted "to notify the parents of boys who have damaged the school house, to fix it, and if they don't, to take legal measures to have the same done." That there is no other like entry in the entire thirty years covered by the record speaks pretty well for the boys up in that corner of the Town.

Now and then some voter believed he had a grievance and would bring it up at a school meeting, but such things were smoothed out and in a few years forgotten. On one occasion, however, in 1836, when one of the residents failed to learn of a school meeting which he very much wanted to attend, he missed the meeting, but he was on hand the next time and caused a vote to be passed to the effect that the warnings for all future meetings should be posted not only on the school house, but also "on the chestnut tree at the corner of the road by Elezar Strong's."

The spelling of some of the clerks who made the entries in this ancient record seems curious to us of later generations who have had better educational opportunities. A couple of entries will show their originality in their mode of spelling, but no one can fail to understand what they were driving at. Here is an entry made in 1836: Voted "to chuse tow Comitey to setel with Mr. Wels." Also voted "We agurn this meten fore weaks." Here is another in 1837:

Voted that the Committee "Repre the schooll house and mak chuch repaers as they shall think proper."

For several years their school house had been getting in need of more and more repairs, and it became a question whether or not it was profitable to keep on repairing. The arguments began to get warm and the school meetings more frequent. The only alternative finally was to rebuild the old one or build an entirely new one. Feeling ran high. Bitter words were said. Anger came into play. When the regular school meeting was held March 3, 1854, the principal item in the warning was to see what the district would do about a new school house. Various motions were made and all were voted down. Finally it was voted to adjourn the meeting without date. Then some angry and excited citizen jumped up and moved to reconsider the vote to adjourn. This caught somebody napping. The vote to reconsider was *carried*, and the meeting remained in session. Such a thing as parliamentary law is of no consequence if one is angry enough. Then with the surge of victory in their mental make-up, they voted to have a Committee of nine to consider the matter of a new school house, and after thus accepting the gage of battle, they voted to adjourn to the first Saturday in May. This time no one moved to reconsider the vote to adjourn. We can easily realize the state of turmoil in which the Northeast district found itself. While the first Saturday in May was approaching, much electioneering went on. Each side was eager to have its full voting strength at the meeting about to occur. Neighbor talked with neighbor. The need for a new school house was debated pro and con. At last the first Saturday in May arrived. Neither side was ready. The meeting came to order and the only thing done was to adjourn till May 27th. It was the lull before the storm. In the intervening days, whether the farm work lagged or progressed, whether the crops were planted or not, whether it was fair weather or foul, everyone got ready for May 27th. When that day arrived, they gathered at the leaky old school house ready for battle. Every person in the district who had a right to vote was present. The meeting came to order. The motion was made that the district proceed to build a new school house. There was some debate, but not much. Every man knew which way he was going to vote. The moderator put the motion and every man

voted. Fourteen for and thirteen against. We can almost see the smiles of triumph on the faces of the winners and the looks of chagrin on the faces of the losers. Still, while there is life there is hope. The losers, after a moment's thought, moved to adjourn the meeting for two weeks. This motion, strangely enough, was carried. Perhaps some one else was caught napping, or perhaps some voter did not correctly understand the motion. It would seem that some were over confident, and having won out, rested on their laurels, for when the adjourned meeting was called to order June 10th the winners at the previous meeting did not have their ranks complete and in fighting trim. The opponents of the new school house were all there and moved to rescind the vote to build a new school house. This was carried. They then moved not to build a new school house. This was carried. That was too much. They had rubbed the sore spot too hard. Pandemonium broke loose. Probably accusations of unfairness, cheating and all kinds of skulduggery were made and denied. It was a real tempest in a teapot. The last entry by the clerk is this: "The meeting broke up without order or adjournment." Angry? Indeed they were. However, it was a case of great cry and little wool, for they shortly *did* have a new school house.

The records of the Southeast School District are, fortunately, more complete than those of other districts, being complete from October 7, 1824, to the date when the school districts were legislated out of existence, i.e., January 1, 1883, with a few scattering sheets of earlier date. The first school house of which we have much knowledge in this district was in existence as early as 1818, and, without doubt, was of the one room type then in general use in this part of New England. It stood on the west side of the road from Granville to Granby, nearly opposite the house formerly owned and occupied by Ralph H. Hiers. That it was heated (?) by fire in a fireplace seems certain in view of one of the votes passed at a school meeting September 14, 1818, when it was voted to have one quarter of a cord of good hard wood "per scholar, cut and corded three feet, to be got by the first of January next," and that those who did not furnish their quota of wood, pay \$1.50 to the committee.

The chief business transacted at these school meetings was to decide when the terms of school should begin and how long they

should continue, to provide for furnishing the fire wood and to repair the school house. Speaking generally, the meetings of one School District were like those of any other District.

But times were changing, for at a meeting on October 7, 1824, it was voted "that the front chimney be filled up" and "that one quarter of a cord of two foot wood to each scholar (be procured) to be well cut, split and corded suitable for a *stove*." So it seems that the stove had displaced the fireplace, and incidentally used only two thirds as much fuel and probably gave out four times as much heat.

Some one in this district had ideas about thrift, for at a school meeting on March 1, 1830, it was voted "that the Treasurer be directed to loan the school money till wanted to pay the summer teacher." There is no record of what was done as a result of this vote, but not long after that date the district voted to investigate the doings of a former officer. From this we may see that investigations are no new invention.

Every year the school house needed to be repaired and finally it came to the point where it became necessary to choose between extensive repairs and a new building. At last, after having voted several times to build a new school house, and then rescinding their action, it was voted in 1838 to accept the offer of Jephtha Rose to give the district a "life lease" of a lot for the new building. The "life lease" turned out to be a deed of the land to be used for school purposes and when it was not so used, it was to revert to the grantor or his heirs. This seems to have been the usual method of securing sites for school houses in those days. A committee was chosen to superintend the construction and another committee to procure a plan for the new building and submit it to a later meeting. This was such an important matter that they held school meetings about every two weeks throughout the year. At an adjourned meeting held December 3, 1838, it was voted "to have the house painted red and trimmed with white before we call it completed," and also "to choose a committee of one to ascertain Joseph West's claim, if any, on the land where the school house now stands." It had been previously voted to build it twenty-two feet wide and thirty feet long and to raise \$250.00 to pay for it. At a further adjournment,

on December 15th, it was voted "to accept J. Rose's offer to give the district land across the highway from the old school house by the district removing the old house within six months after the new one is completed. The said land is to be three rods in front and two rods and three paces in back, for which he is to give a deed to the District." At the next adjournment two weeks later, the plan had arrived and they were really getting to business. It was then voted to have the posts ten feet between joints, with two posts under the middle beam "turned or worked 8-square" and that the plan drawn by S. H. Whitney for the frame be accepted. The bid of Jephtha Rose to make and put up the frame for \$27.50 was accepted. And so in the spring and summer of 1839 the new school house was built on the east side of the road and nearly in front of the house formerly occupied by Ralph H. Hiers, and it was painted red trimmed with white.

Probably the old school house showed the marks of many a jack knife, even as other New England school houses did, but there was to be an embargo on whittling the new school house, for on October 7, 1839, it was voted "that if any scholar shall be detected in cutting the benches in the School House, his parents or guardian shall pay twenty-five cents damage." Note the wording of the vote: "shall be detected in cutting the benches." Having in mind the normal boy of the New England hills and his fondness for "seeing if his knife would cut," I venture to say that the new benches were as well scarred as the old ones, in spite of the vote. Later in the same month it was voted "to sell the old school house to the highest bidder," and it was sold to James Root for \$6.50. The old stove, however, was put in the new house, so that with the beginning of the school year in the fall of 1839 the new school house was in use.

It is of interest to note, in view of the present so-called hard times when so much is said about wages being low, that in the year when this school house was opened for use, the school committee was instructed "not to pay but \$1.50 per week for a summer teacher." And further, in 1850 the district voted "that we employ a Female teacher": "that she have a steady boarding place": and "that it (the cost of her board) be put up to the lowest bidder tonight (October 20) and John Phelps took it at 95 cents per week." Then again as to wood; in 1843 William G. Gibbons, the lowest bidder,

agreed to furnish six cords of two foot wood, with no red oak and no small limbs, for sixty-eight cents per cord. The next year he bid off the wood at fifty-one cents per cord. It should be borne in mind that these prices meant wood split to proper size and piled in the shed. In 1846 the district tried a different plan about furnishing the wood. It was voted "that each scholar pay ten cents for wood." This scheme apparently did not work very well, for it was not tried again. At a meeting on March 3, 1854, it was voted "to have a stone wall in the rear of the school house" and Jephtha Rose agreed to build it (about twelve rods) for one dollar per rod. Some of that wall has since been removed, but the remainder is still standing.

Like many new houses, there were neither trees nor shrubbery to make shade and give relief from the heat of summer, so at the regular annual meeting in 1856 it was voted "to have the committee make application to the Selectmen to have maple trees set out in front of the house." This was accordingly done. The trees were set out and now seem to be in the prime of their youth after nearly eighty years.

The question of water for the school came up after a time and in 1864 it was voted not to dig a well. The next year it was voted to allow individuals to dig a well near the school house provided it was no expense to the district. Finally, after more votes in 1865, the well was dug the next year, and at a meeting November 7, 1866, it was voted "to accept D. Searles bill of Forty-three Dollars for digging well, furnishing pump," etc. Then the school had its own water.

Soon after 1860 the number of pupils in the district had increased to the point where the school house was crowded. This caused much discussion. Some thought best to build another room as an addition to the present building, others said it would be better to have a new building nearer the Corners, because the center of population in the district had changed, still others thought there was no need to do anything about it. But the district was facing a condition and it kept pressing for solution. Then a happy thought came. Perhaps they could divide the district into two. This idea was at first voted down, but the principle had taken root. If the district could not be divided, why not divide the pupils? One division could be served

at the school house and the other at some place at the Corners. On February 23, 1864, it was voted that all pupils over ten years of age were to go to the school house as well as those under that age living on Sodom, Silver and Bacon streets. A month later it was voted to have a committee "to see Mrs. Phelps and the Trustees of the Academy to see if they can obtain a room in the Academy for the school." Temporarily the difficulty was overcome, but the perpetual argument about a new school house would not die, and many were the meetings held upon this question, and no little temper was lost over it. The district would vote to build a new building on the same site. Then it would vote not to build it on that site, but somewhere else. Then it would vote not to build a new building, but to repair the old one. And so it went back and forth according to which side had the greater number of voters at the meetings. At last there were only two sites considered; one where the school house stood and the other on land offered by James O. Rose, nearer the village. Then upon petition of the taxpayers in the district, the Selectmen issued a warrant for a school meeting to be held at the school house on June 19, 1871. The late Lester B. Dickinson was at that time clerk of the district and on June 12th he served the warrant by posting one copy on the school house and another copy in the post office at the Corners, all in conformity with the regulations of the district and the laws of the Commonwealth.

Three days later the question of building a new school house was settled. It was settled unexpectedly, quickly and finally. On the night of June 15, 1871, the school house burned down. That meant a new building. The next entry in the school record is as follows: "Pursuant to the foregoing warrant the voters of the South East School District in the East Parish of Granville met on the ruins of the late school house in said District." The articles set forth in the warrant were disregarded. There was only one item of business done. A committee was chosen "to see if they cannot decide upon some location for a new school house which the district will accept and report at an adjourned meeting." Two days later (June 21) it was voted "that the district locate a school house on the lot of James Rose joining the Brook across the highway from Noble & Cooley drum shop."

Building operations were at once begun and the two-story school house by the brook was built in very quick time. At a meeting of the district March 11, 1872, it was reported that the building had been built at a cost of \$3520.91. The building committee was composed of John A. Root, Silas Noble, Bevil C. Dickinson, Edward Holcomb and Orville Carpenter. This building served the district until all the schools were taken over by the Town by virtue of Chapter 219 of the Acts and Resolves of 1882, and it continued to be used for a school house by the Town until it was abandoned in 1933, when the new Village School building at the eastern edge of the village was erected. The old building was demolished in 1935.

Some interesting facts about the well nigh forgotten school in North Lane, East Parish, are taken from the original school register of that school for 1870–1871. There were each year at that time, two terms of twelve weeks each. The summer term began May 2, and ended July 22. The winter term began November 8, and ended January 28, 1871. The teachers were paid six dollars a week. The teacher that summer was Amanda A. Wells and in the winter Lizzie Maloney. The names of 28 pupils appear in the list of those attending the summer term, and their ages range from Michael Arnold at seventeen years to tiny Mary Clapp who is credited with three years and seven months.

A curious feature of this old record is the amazing number of times the pupils were tardy. One child who was present 33 days during the term was tardy 31 times. Another who was present 23 days was tardy 20 times. Five pupils were tardy more than half the time and fourteen more than one third of the time. It would seem that punctuality was not one of the subjects taught in that school at that time. Attendance was much better in the winter term, eleven being present every day and five having no tardy marks.

Perhaps the best way to get a fairly good picture of this school is to note the names and ages of the pupils. The names of the girls were registered in one group, and the names of the boys in a separate group in accordance with New England tradition, which frowned upon the mingling of the sexes.

<i>name</i>	<i>yrs</i>	<i>mos</i>	<i>name</i>	<i>yrs</i>	<i>mos</i>
Emma Twining	12	6	William Linch	15	4

<i>name</i>	<i>yrs</i>	<i>mos</i>	<i>name</i>	<i>yrs</i>	<i>mos</i>
Bridget Roach	12	1	Jerry Shea	11	8
Katie Linch	12	6	Georgie Miles	10	7
Bridget Sullivan	10	5	David Roach	10	5
Julia Linch	10	10	Charley Randall	8	2
Nellie Shea	9		Timmie Miles	7	1
Nettie Crocker	10	3	Roger Miles	5	1
Elma S. Stow	8	3	Johnnie Roach	5	5
Katie Roach	8		Burton Phelon	6	3
Mary Shoughrough	8	1	Jackson J. Twining	6	4
Katie Shea	6	4	Michael Arnold	17	
Katie Sullivan	9	2	Jimmie H. Shea	4	
Nancy Shoughrough	7	7			
Mary Clapp	3	7			
Mary Sullivan	7	3			
Emma Randall	6				

It should be remembered that the town did not furnish school books in those days. Parents sending children to school were required to equip their children with such books as they thought necessary. There was no such thing as uniformity in the books used. There were more varieties of text books than there were colors in Joseph's traditional coat. Teachers who had to get along with this drawback must have been very adaptable to circumstances and had rather rough and ready methods. It is remarkable that the pupils acquired as much education as they did.

Where this particular country school flourished in 1870, only one house occupied as a permanent dwelling now remains. In the entire area served by this school the population, the houses and barns, and the school house have all vanished. Fields once cultivated and productive have been abandoned and are now growing up to brush and trees. This remarkable change has occurred in less than three quarters of a century, and is chiefly due to the fact that nearby municipalities have acquired the land to protect their supplies of drinking water.

Without doubt the records of other school districts are equally interesting, were they available, and very likely they would show substantially the same difficulties; repairs, fuel, teachers, and perhaps a new school house. They had no trouble over transportation of pupils. Each family had the duty of getting its own children to

school and furnishing them with books. Neither the district nor the Town had any obligations in that matter. The principal duty of the Town toward the schools seems to have been merely to raise money to pay for the instruction in the schools and to have a committee to take a sort of general oversight over them. It was always voted in Town meeting how the money appropriated for support of the schools should be divided and very generally there was pulling and hauling over the method of apportionment, each district voting for the scheme which would secure for it the most money. In 1864 a new method was devised. Theretofore it had been divided one half on the basis of the relative grand lists in the several districts and one half on the basis of the relative number of pupils in the various districts. Now a new element was injected into the method. It was voted to divide the school money one third on the list basis, one third on the pupil basis and one third among the districts equally, regardless of the amount of the grand list or the school population. Due to the clumsiness of the ancient school system prevailing in Granville, the Town was sometimes the victim of a little sharp practice on the part of the districts. If a district was dissatisfied with its share of the appropriation, it would sometimes have its school continue in session after its share of the town money had been exhausted and then send in a bill to the Town for the deficiency. The only thing the Town could do was to pay it. Then too, the districts sometimes worked it this way. They would have their school in session a lesser number of weeks than their town money would warrant and then use the balance for purposes other than instruction. The Town put a stop to this sort of thing in 1873 when it was voted that each district must have six months of school instruction and no more at the expense of the Town in each year.

Without doubt the Town School Committee had always been duly organized with chairman and clerk, but if so their records prior to 1875 have not been located, but in that year either a new committee was elected or the old one turned over a new leaf, for the records beginning then are fully and neatly kept. The heading in the record book is: "Records of the School Committee of Granville." At that time the members of the Committee were Emerson C. Rose, George D. Felton and George H. Atkins. Mr. Rose was

chosen chairman and Mr. Felton clerk. The record starts with a census of the school pupils in town between the ages of five years and fifteen years inclusive, the total number being 281. The names of the various teachers are given, as well as the wages paid. In 1877 teachers were paid from five dollars to eight dollars per week, depending apparently on the size of the different schools.

Prior to this time, the different districts had been designated by names, which in some instances were a source of confusion. So, in 1878 the Committee assigned numbers to the school districts as follows:

<i>In East Granville</i>		<i>In West Granville</i>	
Center	No. 1	Beech Hill	No. 7
South Lane	No. 2	Center	No. 8
Southeast	No. 3	Southwest	No. 9
Northeast	No. 4	South Lane	No. 10
North Lane	No. 5	Hollow	No. 11
Stowe	No. 6		

and these numbers were used to identify the various districts until the district system was abolished by law.

Another innovation occurred in 1881. The series of readers used in the schools theretofore was the so-called Analytical Readers, but Mr. Felton thought a change would be beneficial, so after considerable deliberation it was decided to change to the Franklin Readers. In order to accomplish this change, the Town bought the books from the publishers and the members of the Committee sold them to the parents of the various pupils.

In 1884 Mr. Felton's record stops, doubtless due to his failing health, for his death occurred in 1885.

It was about this time, and for reasons like the above and similar abuses, that the district system fell into disrepute, not particularly in Granville, but throughout the Commonwealth. As might be expected, the matter came to the attention of the legislature, and the result was that a law was passed providing that all towns in the Commonwealth might at their annual meeting vote upon the question of abandoning the district system and place the entire control of the schools upon the Town. The law also provided that when once the district system was given up, it could not be re-instated. Once voted out, that was the end of it. When the advantages of the

Town system became more appreciated, the law was changed to *require* all towns to vote on that question at regular intervals. The next step was to make the intervals between votes shorter, so that at last it became necessary to vote on this matter every year. Granville voted at all the required times, and every time voted that it would not give up the district system. So it happened that Granville was one of a very few Towns using the old system, one of the few places in the Commonwealth where the voters were hard headed enough to prefer to do as their fathers had done. It is interesting to note the chronology of the events. At the annual Town meeting April 30, 1881, the Town voted as usual not to abolish the districts. At the annual meeting March 20, 1882, the Town again voted as it had the year before; 29 in favor of abolishing the districts and 43 in favor of retaining them. Even while the voters of Granville were thus asserting their independence, and incidentally defying the public opinion of the Commonwealth, a bill to abolish the district system was being considered by the General Court. It was passed, and approved by the Governor on May 12, 1882. The law was short and very much to the point. Section 1 says: The school district system in this Commonwealth is hereby abolished. Section 3 provides that the act shall take effect January 1, 1883.*

So that was that.

So it became necessary to have the property of the several districts appraised in order that the proper adjustment might be made as between the Town and the districts, and at the annual meeting March 19, 1883, a committee was chosen to make such an appraisal of the various school houses. The committee appears to have been made up of one man from each district. These were the members: Frank Robinson, Vincent E. Barnes, George H. Atkins, Charles Treat, Marshall V. Stow, James P. Cooley, Lorenzo H. Noble, John A. Root, Stephen Roberts and Ralph S. Brown. On April 16, following, the committee made its report at an adjourned meeting, as follows:

District No. 1, Center	\$12.
“ “ 2, South Lane, East Parish	280.
“ “ 3, South East	1834.

* Acts and Resolves of 1882, at page 176.

"	"	4, North East	100.
"	"	5, North Lane, East Parish	450.
"	"	6, Stow	0
"	"	7, Beech Hill	331.
"	"	8, Ore Hill	507.
"	"	9, South West	145.
"	"	10, South Lane, West Parish	407.

Soon after the appraisal, it was voted that one third of the amounts be paid to the respective districts that year (1883) and also another third less the district debts. There seems to be no record of what became of the last third, but without doubt it was paid the following year. Thus ended nearly a century of argument and the avoidance of responsibility which naturally resulted from the awkward duplicate system of school management which had during all that time been followed. It was a case of too many cooks.

No sooner had the control of the schools passed to the Town than it became necessary to decide whether to maintain schools in the various places where the old district school houses were, or to abandon some and have the children transported where necessary. Naturally the residents in the former districts fought to have the schools in their own neighborhood continued, and so it was decided to do that way. Undoubtedly that was, under all the circumstances, the wisest decision to reach.

It soon came about that a new school house was needed in the old Northeast district. There was nothing to do but build one, and what seems in Granville to be the inevitable wrangle over the question of where to build it, started anew. On March 22, 1886, it was voted to proceed to build a new school house. But one meeting could never settle such a difficult matter as building a five hundred dollar building, so in July of that year a special Town meeting was held and after considering sundry sites and recommending one (where the building was not built), the whole responsibility was left upon the committee, which went ahead and performed its task. A lot was secured in October of that year, the deed containing the condition usually found in the school lot deeds of that generation, to the effect that when the land ceased to be used for school purposes it should revert to the grantor. This was the last school house built for the sole use of any former district.

A new and very beneficial policy was adopted as a result of a change in the law of the Commonwealth, in the matter of superintendence. Theretofore the school committee, or a special committee, acted as superintendent, but now two or more Towns were authorized to unite in employing some one as a superintendent who was educated and qualified to serve in that capacity. At the annual Town meeting in 1890, it was voted to accept the recently passed act relating to Superintendents of Schools, and also that Granville would join with Southwick, Agawam and Longmeadow, or any one of them, in the employment of a superintendent. But all this came to nothing. New ideas are adopted slowly, and especially is this true among hill-dwelling people. Granville would have no superintendent until time enough had elapsed for the idea to sink in and then come to the surface as something indigenous. This came to pass two years later when, upon the urgent recommendation of the school committee that the experiment be tried out for at least two years, Mr. U. G. Wheeler was employed, in conjunction with other towns. The idea worked so well that Granville has always from that time had the services and advice of a competent superintendent.

Fully as important as the superintendent was the changing policy of the committee. This was concerning the transporting of school children living in areas where only a very small school could be kept to schools with a larger number of pupils. The tendency to have fewer and larger and, inferentially at least, better schools became manifest first in 1891 when at the annual Town meeting \$150. was appropriated for transportation of scholars. This was the last step in leaving the "little red school house" to the mists of antiquity and sentiment. It was merely a question of time when they would all be gone. The policy of abandoning the weak schools and transporting the pupils in that area has been consistently followed and the small outlying school houses have been sold or otherwise disposed of. The fact that all such school houses stood on land which had been conveyed to the various districts or the Town conditioned upon the continued use for school purposes, made the exit of the old school houses much easier and more speedy. To such an extent were the pupils transported in 1929, that at a special Town

meeting January 23, 1930, it was voted to purchase a bus for that use.

Because the school house built by the Southeast district, as a result of the fire of June 15, 1871, was the largest and most convenient in town, all the pupils living east of the Great Valley were carried to that school. This made conditions there very crowded and with a slight rise in school population some additional facilities had to be provided. Places which could be used as school rooms were not numerous, but finally the then Committee arranged for the use of the hall on the second floor of the building where the Gibbons' store was located. Such quarters for a school were entirely unsatisfactory, but it was the best that then could be done. The entire Town realized the situation and at a Town meeting on February 16, 1925, a committee was chosen "to inquire into the need of more school accommodations." This inquiry the committee made in due time and reported that the need was imperative, and that a new and larger building ought to be provided forthwith. Whereupon sundry sites were proposed, including an addition to the lot where the school house then stood, and the Town found itself plunged into the same old quagmire of argument and hesitation as to which site to select. This sort of backing and filling continued nearly eight years before it came to anything definite. Meeting after meeting was held. Argument after argument. Much temper was lost and no little stubbornness displayed until finally the die was cast and at a Town meeting on January 19, 1933, it was voted to buy the so-called Pendleton lot on the south side of Maple Street at the eastern edge of the village of Granville, opposite the home of Mr. Wilbur E. Pendleton, for the sum of \$2500.00. By deed dated February 17, 1933, Mr. Pendleton conveyed to the Inhabitants of Granville the lot bounded as follows; Bounded north on the highway 335 feet; east on land of Napoleon Marcotte about 666 feet; south on land of Burt J. Roberts 338 feet; and west on his own land about 716 feet. Building operations did not lag. A modern up to date brick building was erected, with oil heating, at a total cost for the entire plant of \$31147.69 and it was ready for use early in December, but it was not occupied until January 1934. In a competition, open to all the schools in New England,

this new school house, standing almost in the shadow of Sodom Mountain, won second prize for suitability and fitness for the work to be carried on in it. It is called the Village School and the lot on which it stands is large enough for all the pupils to have an abundance of space for playgrounds. According to the report of the Superintendent of Schools which appears in the town report for 1934, there were 80 pupils receiving instruction there, and in all the rest of the Town there were only two schools, one at Ore Hill having 17 pupils and one in South Lane having 15 pupils.

Two other votes relating to the schools, passed in 1933 when the entire country was in the throes of hard times following the World War and when there was much unemployment and wages were being drastically reduced, are of particular interest. One passed at the Town meeting on January 13 was to ask the Selectmen not to employ married persons for teachers. This was in line with what was being done elsewhere. The other at the Town meeting of February 27 was that the salaries of the teachers should not be reduced. This was decidedly not in line with other Towns and Cities where very generally teachers received substantial reductions.

Attention has been repeatedly called to the existence of the Great Valley, and this is quite necessary if one is to understand some of the happenings in this historic Town. It must be constantly borne in mind. One of the least obscure manifestations of the influence of this Valley is a sort of natural rivalry between those residing west of the Valley and those east of it. Before the days of automobiles a trip from the west side of the Town to the east side and return was a journey of no small magnitude and not lightly to be undertaken. The Great Valley was appropriately so called. It is deep and its sides are steep. The road across it is, for horses, an arduous climb. It is a climb down in and then a climb up out. Such a condition operates to prevent easy intercourse between the two parts of the Town, and any peculiarities of opinion on one side of the Great Valley as to those on the other side are naturally accepted by the younger generation as part of their environment. So, when most of the pupils in Town were carried to the school in Granville to be taught and the new Village School was erected, there were those in the west part of the Town who felt that the east side was getting

more than its share, and that the west side also must have a modern and up-to-date school building. Now comes the exception that proves the rule. The residents on the west side of the Great Valley proposed to get their school building willy nilly. So when it was learned that to bring back times of prosperity to this nation, the Federal government was handing out large sums of money for various enterprises, schools among others, the then Town School Committee made application for aid in building a school house in the west part of the Town. Weeks went by and the Committee worked industriously. Finally word was received by the Committee that the government would pay forty per cent. of the cost of a \$25000.00 school building. It was unfortunately necessary to get a vote of the Town for the other sixty per cent. of the cost. The subject was not discussed publicly. The first intimation the people on the east side of the Great Valley had of the proposal was when a warning for a Town meeting appeared in the usual place, called for October 16, 1935, to see what the Town would do about it. There were inquiries as to what it was all about, but no discussion. The time was short and when the meeting came to order, nearly all the voters west of the Valley were present and voted for the school proposition, while only a few from the east side of the Town were there to object. It was voted to proceed to secure a site and build a new school house upon it, the entire cost of which should be \$25000.00, which sum was duly appropriated, and it was voted also to accept the forty per cent. of such cost upon the terms offered by the government. It would seem that the 31 pupils on that side of the Valley were to be well taken care of. Plans were secured, but it turned out that the Committee had reckoned without its host. No contractor could be found who would undertake the contract for the price available, and very few cared to be under the government control which had been laid down as a condition. As a result, it was voted at a subsequent Town meeting to rescind the vote of October 16th, and the whole matter was temporarily given up. Later, however, the subject was generally discussed and at a Town meeting which was widely expected, the Town voted to go ahead on its own responsibility and provide the much needed school house, and appropriated \$15000.00 for that purpose.

The picture of Granville's educational system would be entirely inadequate and incomplete if one should overlook that interesting development, the private academies. Of these Granville had three. The first one at West Granville, the second at Granville Center, and the third at Granville Corners. The second one, however, does not have anything to do with the instruction given by Dr. Cooley at his home to some 800 or more boys whom he fitted for college during his long pastorate. He never called his teaching a school, or an academy, although he taught academic branches. He never employed any assistants. All his instruction was given by himself personally and there can be little doubt that his taking so many boys into his home to teach them is the principal reason why the academy at the Center was not built earlier.

The era of private academies swept over New England like a wave. Not every Town had one, but most Towns did, and many of those schools established in the first part of the nineteenth century are still flourishing. When the impulse for learning, above the common school grade taught in the usual country schools, was felt in Granville is not exactly known, but it must have been about 1835. West Granville, although insisting still on calling itself the Middle Parish in Granville, had had not a few highly educated men, and being convinced that a knowledge of the higher education was desirable, some of its progressive residents set about getting it. Whether they were guided by the experience of other Towns or not, we are unfortunately unable now to determine. Records upon the subject are almost nil. It was, however, finally determined to start a subscription and if possible raise the necessary funds that way. This was done and by some good fortune it has come down to us and here it is:

Nathan Parsons and son	\$50.00	Frederick Hodgkins	5.00
Rev. Henry Eddy	50.00	G. W. Shepard	5.00
William H. Squire	50.00	Lyman Shepard	40.00
Dr. Vincent Holcomb	50.00	Noah Cooley	100.55
Samuel and Luman		——— Moss	15.00
Parsons	30.00	A. L. Curtiss	25.00
Dea. H. Robinson	25.00	Ezra Baldwin	10.00
Seth Coe	39.91	Leander Harger	3.00
Jabez Atkins	10.00	John Kent	5.00

Jesse Rose	9.50	George W. Terret	5.00
Josiah Atkins	10.00	Nathan Atkins	5.00
Wetmore Baldwin	5.00	J. R. and M. K. Bates	15.00
D. L. Munn	3.67	Levi Parsons	7.00
F. G. Baker	5.00	William A. Baldwin	10.00
Joel D. Harger	5.00	Ethan Coe	5.00
Samuel Wilcox	2.00	Roderick Spelman	6.00
Edmund Monson	5.00	Elizur Robinson	5.00

Without doubt there were others too, who gave labor and materials. The number of contributors indicates the general interest in the enterprise. It is not known whether the academy was built where it now stands, just east of the meeting house, or whether it was erected on some near-by site and ultimately moved to its present location. An exhaustive search for a deed in connection with its location has been entirely barren of results. It is with diffidence that the following suggestion is offered, but it has the support of the only shred of documentary evidence so far uncovered. It is submitted that it was erected on the Green, the common land, where it now stands. Like the building of the meeting house, it was an enterprise of common interest and concern, and what more natural than to build it on common land? At any rate it was erected and was first used in 1837. Whether the Parish Committee supervised its construction is open to any one's guess, but it is beyond doubt that that Committee had control of it after it was erected, because there appears in the records of the Middle Parish a vote passed April 3, 1850, in the following words: "voted to choose a board of Trustees to have the supervision of the Academy School." Whether such a board was chosen or not, does not appear, and if chosen, the names of those so selected do not appear. It may well be that no such board was chosen, but the vote clearly shows that the control of the Academy was then in the hands of the Parish Committee, and the ownership of the building seems to have been similar to that of the meeting house.

The subjects taught were those of the high schools of the present day, but great stress was laid upon Latin, Greek and Philosophy, these being considered the foundation of all education. Tuition was from three dollars to four dollars a term, of which there were three in each academic year. Board was somewhere around a dollar

and fifty cents per week. When board and tuition were figured together, a dollar and seventy-five cents a week covered the bill. The Academy drew its students not only from Granville, but also from surrounding Towns, even from as far as Whately, Massachusetts, and Farmington, Connecticut.

A more or less fragmentary list of the teachers at the Academy has been collected and is here offered in order that such information as it contains may not be lost. It is not pretended that the order of succession is as here given.

Francis Warner	1837 to 1840
Noah S. Bartlett	1840 to 1845
Timothy A. Hazen	
Edward Manley	
——— Foster	
Susan Holcomb	
Mary Wilchell	
——— Newell	
Albert Starkweather	
Simon W. Hatheway	
——— Whiting	
Russell H. Conwell	about 1863
Eleazer Hayden	
George H. Atkins	1869

Mr. Atkins was the last one to conduct a school in the Academy building. Public instruction had progressed to the point where the modern high school was available in many places and the small private academies in the remoter locations could not attract pupils enough to make their continuance profitable.

After some years of idleness, the church decided it could use the Academy for its social purposes, and the Parish Committee came to the conclusion that it could be so used to the greater benefit of the people in the Parish, and therefore have permitted such use to the present time.

The origin of the Academy at Granville Corners presents a different picture. It was never in any sense a Parish enterprise, but on the contrary, was conceived by a few public spirited individuals and was financed by them. Also it was the outgrowth of what had gone before. As early as the first part of the 1840's the house formerly occupied by Archie Jensen was owned by two deacons of the Baptist

Church and was used as a parsonage. When the wave of desire for instruction of high school grade made its presence felt at the Corners, it seems that the then resident minister there undertook to meet the demand and started a school in the basement of his house (this house was on a rather steep side hill so the basement had windows toward the east), where he took in and instructed such of the youth of the Town as cared to pursue their studies beyond the point taught in the district schools. Such a school was conducted there in 1843, and some local wag deridingly dubbed it the Cellar Kitchen Academy. The late Silas B. Root told the writer that his uncle, John A. Root, was one who attended that school. When it was started, who imparted the instruction and when it ceased to function, are questions to which no answer is vouchsafed, but it establishes the fact that the so-called higher branches of education were taught at the Corners to some extent and thereby paved the way for the Academy which soon was built.

The enterprise of having an Academy necessitated, among other things, securing a building and some land on which to erect it. The whole matter was approached in the most logical way. Those who were most interested formed themselves into a corporation under the laws of the Commonwealth, by the name of the East Granville Central Academy. Who the stockholders were, and the basis of the capitalization, have not come down to us as fully as might be wished, but we have the general outline. The stockholders arranged to buy a piece of land from John Phelps, who then was the local blacksmith, and proceeded forthwith to build the Academy building. All this appears to have been done in the summer of 1850, because Mr. Phelps and his wife Betsey, executed and delivered a deed to the Stockholders of the East Granville Central Academy, for the sum of \$500.00 on December 14, 1850, of the land "on which the Academy building stands." The deed is recorded in Hampden Registry of Deeds in Volume 164 at page 31. This lot was on the east side of the road from Granville to Granby, and was immediately north of the land owned by the Baptist Church. The building is now standing, but is somewhat altered from its original construction. When built it had the main entrance in the center of the west end of the building. The principal school room occupied the entire

first floor. The bell tower was on the top of the west gable. Just how the second floor was used is not certain, but some of the time a family lived there. The studies usually taught in such academies were taught there, and the first term was the winter of 1850–1851. Both boys and girls attended, and the number varied from 14 in 1857 to about 40 in 1863. Tuition was three dollars and seventy-five cents for twelve weeks. The list of the teachers there is quite incomplete but the names of some and the times when they taught there have been recovered from oblivion, and are here set down so that the information may not be lost.

Edmund Watson	1850–1851
James R. Dewey	1851–1853
John G. Ames	1853–1854
Milton B. Whitney	1860–1861
Lyman Rose	1861–1862
Martin T. Gibbons	1856–1858
Iverson Warner	
Mary J. Spelman	1858–1859
W. Griffin	1859–1860
Rufus C. Hitchcock	1863–1865
Leslie D. Talmadge	1865–1866

Only those names have been assigned to definite dates which have been verified. However, what is more interesting and more unusual is a list of the pupils attending the Academy during the period of Mr. Hitchcock's instruction. He must have been a natural statistician as well as a teacher, for he kept a record of all the scholars he taught, in a life devoted chiefly to teaching. The following is a list of the pupils at the East Granville Central Academy from 1863 to 1865, together with their several ages.

	<i>age</i>		<i>age</i>
Edward Bacon	19	Mary J. Clark	14
Porter W. Bacon	16	William Clifford	13
George L. Brown	16	Alice Cook	18
Jennie Brown	13	Bradford L. Cook	15
Ulissa Brown	15	Daniel Cooley	13
Herbert R. Buttles	16	Lyman M. Cooley	14
Ellen Clark	17	Nellie A. Cooley	13
Henry S. Clark	16	Henry Crosby	10
Hiram P. Clark	15	Burton Dewey	16

	<i>age</i>		<i>age</i>
James K. Eggleston	15	William L. Marvin	16
Miles Goddard	19	Julia A. Moore	11
Caroline Hayes	21	Lizzie J. Otis	17
Jane Hayes	13	Melissa Phelps	14
Marvin C. Hayes	16	Ellen Root	15
Frank S. Henry	16	Silas B. Root	14
Alton E. Holcomb	13	Clinton Smith	14
Elma A. Holcomb	16	Burton Spelman	14
Franklin R. Holcomb	16	Llewellyn Treat	12
Mary M. Holcomb	14	Ellen J. Tryon	16
Clara Kellogg	13	Nora A. Tryon	12
Ben Franklin Knowlton	14	Frank Underhill	9

Mr. Hitchcock also noted some of the scholars attending the Academy in 1862–1863

Oliver P. Cowdery	18	Charles Levi Hinman	16
Lester Dickinson	15	Lucinda Noble	8
Otis Dickinson	19	Ira S. Root	20
David W. Eggleston	16	Addie R. Rose	16
George D. Felton	18	Emerson C. Rose	20

Mr. Talmadge was the last one to conduct a private school in the Academy building. That winter he boarded with Mr. Lester Tryon.

In 1864, as previously stated herein, part of the Academy building was rented to the South East School district for use in caring for such of its pupils as could not be accommodated in its own school house. After the erection of the new school house in 1871, the Academy stood idle for about a year and a half, when the surviving stockholders sold it in 1873 to the Baptist Church. It was then remodelled and used as their parsonage.

As to the Academy building at Granville Center, or East Granville as it was formerly called, little seems to be known about its early history. It is a source of great vexation to have been able to find out so little about it; exactly when it was built; who built it; how it was financed; when an academic school was first taught there; who were the teachers; when such instruction ceased to be given there. All these have escaped the writer. Without doubt there are records in the form of old letters, diaries, account books, or some such document, which would clear up some of these points, but they

are hidden away in boxes, or trunks, or just laid away in some one's attic, shed or barn. The building did exist, for the writer once went into it. It was a two-story frame structure and stood on the south side of the road from Granville to West Granville a short distance west of the beautiful old mansion owned by Holland N. Stevenson.

The earliest documentary evidence the writer has been able to find concerning it is in a vote of the East Parish dated March 30, 1846, as follows: voted "to allow a building, suitable for a school house, to be erected on the public ground near the meeting house, to belong to those who build it, and to be placed and located as a Committee chosen for the purpose shall determine." There is no report or record of the doings of this special Committee, nor of the site selected. It seems to be a fair inference from the wording of the vote that the site contemplated was much nearer the meeting house than the one the building occupied when it was sold to the Town in 1870. It would not have been a very difficult task to move the Academy building the short distance it seems to have travelled.

It is, however, definitely determined that the Academy was built within the two years following the vote noted above, for on April 10, 1848, the Parish voted that "the Parish Committee make arrangements with the Selectmen to hold the Town meetings in the future at the Academy Hall." Then comes a hiatus. Nothing more appears which gives any hint as to any other item of interest concerning this Academy until it was sold and conveyed by Ralph S. Brown to the Town by deed dated April 19, 1870. This deed is recorded in Hampden Registry of Deeds in Volume 276 at page 136, and conveyed to the Town a small plot of land "with the building standing thereon known as the Academy Building."

The late Lester B. Dickenson told the writer that he attended school at this academy in the winter of 1865-1866, and the teacher at that time was George Washington Bennett.

This is all the data which has come to hand concerning the early history of this once proud institution.

When the Town bought the building in 1870, the town offices were established there on the first floor. In 1871 the second floor of the building was rented to the Center School District for use as a school room. This arrangement continued until the number of pupils

in that District became so small that they were transported to the Granville village school. The building became so unsafe that it could not be used for Town meetings, and the Town, at a special meeting November 7, 1922, authorized the Selectmen to sell it, which was done August 11, 1924, for \$500.00. Dr. Holland N. Stevenson was the purchaser and he had the building razed the next year. Thus passed out of existence the tangible evidence of some one's dream.

The Rev. Nelson Scott gave instruction to private pupils in the early 1870's, in that part of the parsonage of the First Church which is now used as a chapel. Among others who sat at the feet of Mr. Scott, Mr. Edwin N. Henry, who died in 1941, was the last survivor in Granville.

Another educational feature of the earlier days in Granville which must be mentioned is the so-called "Singing School." Until comparatively recent years nothing in the way of music was taught in the public schools of rural New England. So the singing school gradually developed to meet this lack in part. It was a brief course in musical instruction for both old and young, with a strong social tinge. It was a winter enterprise and was strictly a private affair. Neither the Town nor the School Districts had anything to do with it.

A singing school was started by some of the residents who were musically inclined who formed themselves into a committee for the purpose of securing a teacher and raising the necessary funds to finance the enterprise. The teacher was always a man. The length of the term was governed by the amount of money raised. The school was conducted in some convenient place; private hall, town hall, school house or private home, as the exigencies of the case might require. In Granville the Academy buildings were sometimes used, also Gibbons' Hall, and the Methodist Society Building (now the Grange Hall). The funds were raised by circulating a paper for general subscription. One such document of sixty years ago sets forth its purpose as follows:—

"This subscription is for the purpose of raising money for the support of a Union Singing School. One half of the schools to be held at the Corners and one half on the Hill, providing each section raise its proportion of the money. Eighteen lessons of the forty shall be devoted principally to instruction in the rudiments of music.

This paper shall be void unless at least seventy-five Dollars are raised. All money to be paid before the first of December."

Such singing schools accomplished two ends. First, they served as a trial ground for those who thought they could sing, with the result that some good, and some excellent, voices were discovered which were a source of much private pleasure and not a little public enjoyment. And second, they afforded opportunities for social intercourse not otherwise presented. Those who attended did so because they enjoyed singing and the informality of meeting together. The sessions were characterized by a spirit of pleasure and sociability with a bit of hilarity in the background. Here were trained, for the most part, the members of the various church choirs in the town. At the close of the term a concert was given which not only gave the students further experience but also afforded an enjoyable occasion to the town's people.

One of the singing teachers who conducted singing schools in Granville was Sterrie J. Weaver, a man of unusual musical ability, who at that time, or later, lived in Westfield and had charge of the musical instruction in the schools of that city. Mr. Weaver originated and established the well known and widely used Weaver System for teaching vocal music, thereby doing for rural New England what Dr. Lowell Mason had done for the schools of Boston.

The Post Offices

WHEN trying to reconstruct the past in the light of records examined in the process of research, one sometimes is astonished by the difference between that which was expected to develop and that which actually does develop. The post offices in Granville are a striking example of this fact.

The settlement of the Town commenced in the northeast corner in 1735, and gradually the settlers crept along to the Hill where the meeting house stands, and there a group of houses arose which came to be a village. Then after a few years the settlers pushed across the Great Valley and another group of houses arose which came to be another village. Then afterward the settlers continued to make their homes further west and a third group of houses came to be another village. In the course of this development, names were attached to these three villages. The one farthest east was called East Granville, the one farthest west was called West Granville, and the one in between was called Middle Granville. All very simple and easy. These were all thriving villages when, in the year 1810, the West Parish was set off and became the Town of Tolland. Granville was a town having over 1500 inhabitants after being separated from the West Parish. It was seventy-five years since the first settlement. Where was the post office? In East Granville, the older village, or in Middle Granville, the larger village, or at Granville Corners, or up Northeast? The United States Post Office Department in those days was functioning smoothly, but *there was no post office in the entire Town of Granville*. Strange as it may seem, this is the story the records of the Post Office Department discloses. How did the residents get their mail? In the first place there was not much mail, and in the next place what there was was dispatched in charge of stage drivers or friends in accordance with the custom of centuries. This condition continued eight years longer. Then it seemed desirable to have an office in the Town, so the Department established the post office of Middle Granville, in the village of that name on May 8, 1818, with Reuben Hills as the

first Postmaster. Eighty-three years after the settlement of the Town it had its first post office.

For fifteen years thereafter the name Middle Granville stuck, although that village was no longer in the middle, so powerful is the habit of speech. Then some of its residents began to chafe over the incongruity and thought the name West Granville, which had been discarded by the West Parish, would be more in accord with the facts. So, on May 29, 1833, the Department changed the name of the post office from Middle Granville to West Granville.

For three quarters of a century mail came to and went from the post office in West Granville. However, during that time the center of population in the Town had moved eastward and West Granville was no longer the largest village in Town. The patronage of the office grew less and less and finally it became quite unprofitable, so on July 15, 1909, after ninety-one years of service it was discontinued and closed. The late Laura E. Welch was the postmistress in West Granville from 1901 until the discontinuance. It is of interest to note that the letter case used in the West Granville post office may now be seen in the collection of antiques in Wiggins Old Tavern at Northampton, Massachusetts.

The residents of the eastern half of the Town did not relish being compelled to go across the Great Valley for their mail, so they set about getting a post office in their part of the Town. This was ultimately accomplished after nine years of effort and the post-office at East Granville, on Granville Hill, was established October 2, 1827, with Lyman Root as the first Postmaster.

The name East Granville was fitting and appropriate for the next thirty years or so. It was then the only village in that part of the Town. Granville Corners was just an ordinary country cross road with a store of small proportions, a tavern, a blacksmith shop and five or six scattered houses, and in the parlance of the day was spoken of rather disparagingly as "Jockey Corners." However, when Noble & Cooley moved their drum business from East Granville to their new factory at Granville Corners in 1857, the Corners began to grow. Soon after that, the people living at the Corners felt that they ought to have the post office instead of the village a mile away on the Hill. The thought was father of the deed. A trip

to Washington; conferences with the political powers; and the trick was turned. An order came from the Department and the post office was removed from East Granville to the Corners. At once trouble was brewing. Instantly two factions were developed, a common and wholly unprofitable condition to arise in any town. Should Jockey Corners, an upstart village, having a more or less unsavory reputation, be permitted to take the post office away from the Hill, a village existing for more than a century? No. This would never do. Another trip to Washington; other conferences with the political powers; and the mischief was overcome. An order came from the Department and the post office journeyed back up the hill to East Granville. Having experienced the pleasures of a post office in their community, the growing village at the Corners could not just sit down and quit, so, more trips to Washington; more politicians interviewed. Lo! An order came from the Department giving the post office again to the Corners. Nothing daunted, the forces on the Hill returned to the fray, and exerted every effort to recover its lost post office. By this time the Department was thoroughly vexed with such pulling and hauling, and put a stop to it by ordering the post office back to East Granville, where it functioned serenely many years.

The fact that East Granville was a mile *west* of Granville disturbed neither the Post Office Department nor the inhabitants of the Town. At long last, however, this came before the Department and it did what it could to remedy the confusion. On January 17, 1894, it changed the name of the post office from East Granville to Granville Center. After that time, events passed smoothly on the Hill and the patrons of the office were calm and contented. The last occupant of the post office was the genial Postmistress Mary Degano. The Granville Center post office was discontinued June 30, 1944, after 117 years of service.

When the Department stopped the peregrinations of the East Granville post office, it pacified the residents of the Corners by giving them a post office under the name of Granville Corners. This was done on February 11, 1863, with Rufus H. Barlow as Postmaster. Mr. Barlow served until January 11, 1875, when John M. Gibbons was appointed Postmaster. On March 6, 1883, the name of the

post office was changed from Granville Corners to Granville. Mr. Gibbons continued to serve the office until March 18, 1901. Then his son, Benjamin F. Gibbons, was appointed and carried on the duties of the office until, in 1941, he reached the age limit prescribed by the government and was automatically retired, making an enviable record of 58 years of continuous service by father and son. His successor is Olav R. Petersen, the present incumbent. On October 1, 1944, Mr. Peterson moved the post office from the Gibbons' store where it had been so many years, to a new building of his own on Granby Road just south of Dickinson Brook.

The Everline Barber Memorial Home

ON February 27, 1866, Isaac W. Barber purchased the farm owned and occupied by Ozro Z. Huggins in the northwesterly part of the town, said to contain three hundred ten acres of land, more or less. That fact by itself is of no particular significance, but it was the beginning of a chain of events which had a quite unexpected outcome. This farm was, like many another hill farm in New England, suitably divided into tillage, pasturage and woodland. It was stony and laborious to cultivate, but it bred and nurtured a hardy and unselfish race.

Mr. Barber and his good wife might quite well have been abolitionists before the Civil War, for their son George W. seems to have been imbued with a desire to help the colored people in the eastern part of our country.

Before his death, Mr. Isaac W. Barber conveyed this farm to his wife Everline, who lived there until her death. Upon her decease the farm was inherited by her only child and heir-at-law, George W. Barber, who, not wishing to live on it, conceived the idea of making it a home for aged colored people. Finally the plan was perfected and by deed dated February 14, 1893, he conveyed the entire farm, with the buildings, to "J. W. Hood, and others, being the Board of Bishops of the A. M. E. Zion Church in America," and their successors in office, "in trust, however, to and for the following uses and purposes, to wit:— said premises shall be used, kept and managed, improved and maintained as and for a residence and home for the aged, infirm and incapacitated ministers of said Church, their widows and orphans, and such other needy and worthy persons as said Bishops and their successors in office may from time to time permit to reside there, and said home shall be known as The Everline Barber Memorial Home."

It is evident that Mr. Barber overlooked the fact that aged and infirm people who had spent most or all their lives in the warm

lands of the South might find it difficult to endure the rigors of winter in a hill-top home in New England. The Board of Bishops has seen fit not to maintain there a home for the aged, but the terms of the gift are sufficiently broad to permit its use for those whom the Board deem worthy. The premises are maintained as a camp during two months of the summer. It ordinarily is opened June 25 and closed August 25. Those who come there are recommended by the various Churches of the denomination for approval by the Board. There are accommodations at the camp for two hundred people and some come from as far south as Georgia. The Board appoints a Superintendent who has charge of the camp. In 1947 the Superintendent was Rev. Ralph Gullette, pastor of the Clinton A. M. E. Zion Church in Ansonia, Connecticut. A caretaker inspects the buildings daily. The buildings consist of an assembly hall, cottages and barracks. Recreation consists of athletic games, such as base ball, tennis, pitching horse shoes, swimming, etc. Sunday services and prayer meetings are held regularly, and choral singing as well.

A rather unlooked-for result growing out of the purchase of a farm nearly a hundred years ago.

The Libraries

ANY Town fortunate enough to have within its borders two such uplifting spirits as the Rev. Timothy M. Cooley and the Rev. Joel Baker, could no more escape their influence for improvement mentally, as well as spiritually, than water can run up hill. They were both members of the town school committee over thirty years together. For half a century Dr. Cooley had taken boys from the country schools and fitted them for college. For a third of a century Mr. Baker had in a more modest degree done likewise, and without a doubt he was responsible for the existence of the West Granville Academy, although it was not erected until after his death. Equally without doubt, he was directly the cause of the formation of the first library in Middle Granville.

Massachusetts has for many decades been one of the leaders in education and more than a century ago made the establishment of libraries free from red tape and easy to accomplish. On March 8, 1806, a bill before the General Court became a law. It provided that "any seven persons who shall become proprietors in common of any library may form themselves into a corporation" having sundry rights and powers, and the name of such library shall be "the Proprietors of the (First, or other ordinal number) Social Library of (the name of the Town)".*

The library in Middle Granville was established at an unascertained time, for no records of its early existence have come to light; but while the above mentioned law was in force, it seems to have been incorporated as the Proprietors of the Third Social Library of Granville. This fact at once gives rise to the query as to where the First and Second Social Libraries of Granville were located, and what became of them. If the library in Middle Granville was the *Third*, there must have been two others before that time. How many books it had, where they were kept, and who were the librarians, are all unanswered questions. But they had books, because some of them have come down to us, bearing on the title page,

*Laws of Massachusetts, 1805-1809 at page 84.

or the inside front cover, the name of the Third Social Library. It was in existence prior to 1821, because on February 3rd of that year certain proceedings of the Library at a meeting held on January 5th, 1821, probably its annual meeting, were validated by the General Court, "as though held on January 3," by a special Act, and also its name was changed from The Proprietors of the Third Social Library of Granville to "Dickinson Library Company, incorporated," and its corporate powers were defined. It was authorized to receive donations, gifts etc. not to exceed \$6000.00, of which not more than \$1000.00 could be in real estate, and its personal property (its funds) could not be expended for anything except books and objects necessarily connected with the Library.*

The Dickinson Library was so named in honor of Richard Dickinson of Granville, who had given both land and money for the use of the Library. Books were acquired, some by gift and some by purchase, until several hundred were on its shelves. Some were books of travel, some were for reference, some were histories, but by far the largest number were fiction. If the condition of the covers is any fair criterion to judge by, they circulated freely and much. This Library has been inactive now for many years, due to lack of funds and the changes in the social and economic life of its readers. Then too, those who were most interested in it have either died or removed to other places. At this time there are left only three or four members of the corporation. The books which remain were stored in the gallery of the meeting house in West Granville.

Before library facilities became what they are today, the various churches each had its own library for the benefit of its own members. These small libraries were generally kept at the meeting house of the church, and the books were chiefly those which were suitable for the younger members.

There soon arose, however, a demand for a larger library and the matter came up before the annual Town meeting in 1893, at which time the sum of \$25.00 was appropriated "for a free library," and a board of three Trustees was chosen to take charge of the venture. The Trustees were John A. Gillett, Marshall V. Stow and Ethan D. Dickinson. This seems like a pretty slender

*Acts of Massachusetts, 1818-1822 at page 489.

beginning for a Town free library, but it must be remembered that we all have to creep before we can run. The next year a similar appropriation was made, but in 1895 the appropriation was one half of the money realized from the licensing of the dogs in town. Locally, the money arising from this source is called the "dog money." In this year, too, a librarian was provided. The Rev. George A. Beckwith was chosen to have charge of the Free Library. It was also voted that the Trustees of the Library "shall not place books in any of the villages of the Town unless said village provide a suitable place and furnish a librarian without cost to the Town." From the small beginning of two years before, much progress had been made. Books were now available in the three villages, and the various allotments were changed at times during the year, an arrangement wisely adapted to the needs of the people of the town. In 1896 it was reported that there were 329 books in the Free Library, one half of which were deposited in the chapel of the Congregational Church and one half in the chapel of the Baptist Church, the pastors acting as librarians. The next year the Trustees recommended an additional appropriation so that the librarians "could have a little fire in the cold weather."

Thus, not only were there books at hand for those who cared to read, but of far greater importance was the wider horizon created by a little acquaintance with some of the great works of literature, the broader outlook given to the growing boys and girls, and the increase of their knowledge.

Sensing the situation and realizing that the greatest need of a library is a permanent and adequate headquarters, Mrs. Ralph B. Cooley invited a small group of the public spirited, energetic women of Granville to meet at her home on February 11, 1896, to talk it over. This group she organized into the Granville Library Club, of which she, fittingly, was president. The Club solicited gifts both large and small, the largest of which was \$5000.00 received from the late Milton B. Whitney, Esq., a native of Granville, but then living in Westfield. They labored in various ways to earn individual allotments from time to time. They held meetings to arouse public interest in the enterprise. They were determined to have a suitable building for a free library. How well they succeeded is proven by

the result. They secured a large lot in Granville village, on the corner of Maple Street and the road to Granby, then owned by Mrs. George Gaines. The Gaines homestead was moved to the east where it now stands. A fine yellow brick building, with red sandstone trim and slate roof, was erected, equipped with the necessary fixtures. The entire plant was finished and the land and building were by deed dated January 15, 1902, turned over to the Town. At a special Town meeting January 27th it was voted to accept the building and portrait of the late Milton B. Whitney, Esq., a native of the town. Also as a token of appreciation for the work of the Library Club, it was voted to permit the Club to choose one of the library Trustees for a three year term, and when that term expired, to choose a Trustee for another three year term. In 1908 this privilege of choosing a Trustee was extended for a further period of six years, and ever since, one Trustee has been a Club member. The library was opened to the public February 22, 1902, and was the equal of any library building in a community of equal size in the Commonwealth. The total cost was \$13500.00. The Librarian was Mrs. Mable R. Henry who has served continuously since the opening.

So after six years of intensive labor and many discouragements the Library Club had reached its goal and presented to the Town the well-equipped library of its early dream. The Club was now where it could sit down and let the Town carry on the good work, but they thought otherwise. There was no endowment to provide for upkeep, so they arranged to share the expense of maintenance with the Town and have ever since carried their share of the burden. This is the reason for the annual Library Fair, with its attendant wonderful chicken-pie supper. In addition to books of various types, which now number about 6000, there are most of the leading magazines of this part of the country and the current newspapers. The old Free Library has been absorbed and its peripatetic days are over. The little acorn has grown to be a sturdy tree.

The Town annually appropriates for the support of the Library \$350.00 and one half of the "dog money," and the Library Club makes good the rest. However, some years, in a spirit of generosity, the Town gives all the "dog money."

In 1906 it was voted to establish and maintain branch libraries

at Granville Center and West Granville, which was done, so that the entire population of the Town might be conveniently served.

When the question of a location for the present Library building was being considered, there was a demand that it be located at Granville Center, as that would be nearer the geographical center of the Town. The village of Granville was the largest village in the Town and the Library Club favored that location. There ensued some argument, and perhaps a bit of temper too. Anyway, the Center lost out. But it was not an ill wind, because as soon as the Library building was opened to the public, a library with several hundred books was opened at Granville Center. This was called the Granville Center Free Library. It was established through the munificence of the late Mrs. John M. Stevenson. It finally came to be located in the old "Sabbath Day House," with Mrs. Elliot Barnard as librarian. This house was then owned and occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Elliot Barnard and is the house next east of the meeting house. After some years its chief sponsor died and interest in the Library waned. Funds were not available for the purchase of new books. Those using the Library became fewer and fewer. Then its use ceased altogether. For several years it stood thus, idle and unused, until 1938 when Dr. Holland N. Stevenson suggested that it be given to the Granville Public Library, and in the fall of that year the books were removed to the Library Building and incorporated with the large number of volumes there.

The Drum Shop

AN idea can subvert a nation. Granville never had any such malevolent idea, but it did have one which changed the center of population in the Town, and made Granville famous throughout our land as a manufacturing place. Situated back in the hills, away from all forms of cheap transportation, entirely a farming section, this idea began to take shape soon after 1850. Silas Noble, a farmer in the section of the Town known locally as South Lane, thought he could make a drum. The more he thought it over, the surer he felt about it. He was not a man to sit and dream and keep on dreaming. It would not cost much to try it out and the winters were pretty long in South Lane. So he set about assembling the necessary materials and started in. He made a drum. It was not a very good one, nor yet a very large one, it was only six inches across the head, but it *was* a drum. It was the most valuable drum he ever made. It proved to him that he *could* make a drum. It also made him certain that he could do better, that he could make a better drum. It gave him a vision—a vision of dozens of drums, aye hundreds and thousands of them. Thereupon he made another one. It was better than the first. Then another. It was better still. He made it easier and quicker. Then he *knew* he could make drums. After a few more trials he succeeded in making a good drum. All this happened on the farm. For three weeks he worked at drum making in his father's kitchen. Then he decided to make some drums for market.

He had no proper facilities at the farm for such an enterprise. He felt he must have a shop with a little equipment. He also must have money. He went to James P. Cooley, a man of means in Town, and talked it over with him. He showed the drums he had made. Told him of the possibilities he envisioned. Mr. Cooley was willing to back the venture and it was decided that they would go in together as a partnership under the name of Noble & Cooley and manufacture drums of all kinds. As some of the raw materials had to be brought from the railroad in Westfield, they decided not to locate in West Granville, even though that village was the largest

in Town. The present village of Granville, then more or less contemptuously spoken of as the Corners, or Jockey Corners, consisted of two small stores, a blacksmith shop, a tavern or two, a meeting house and a few small houses. There seemed to be nothing to attract them thither. That left East Granville to be their base. So they built a little shop on the north side of the road at the western edge of that village, near the school house, and in January 1854 began to make drums there by hand. This little shop is now the main part of the house formerly occupied by Charles Flagg.

Close application to the business made it grow and their product was soon favorably known over a wide area. In three years they were employing five hands and they had outgrown their first factory. So in 1857 they moved off "East Granville Hill" and built a shop forty feet long by thirty feet wide and two stories high on the south side of Dickinson Brook and on the east side of the road from the Corners to Granby. For power they built a dam across the Brook at a point nearly opposite the site of the South East District school house which was demolished in 1935. Having water power, and using more help, their staff having expanded now to fifteen employees, golden returns began to be made upon farmer Noble's idea.

In 1860, when the Lincoln campaign was in progress, they sent to Illinois and secured one of the rails split by Mr. Lincoln, then a candidate for President of the United States. This was used for the shell of a special drum to be used in the campaign. Probably this drum is one of the most expensive drums of regular military size ever made. The hooks were of solid silver and the cord was of pure silk, red, white and blue. Later the drum was presented to the 10th Massachusetts regiment, and it finally found a resting place in the United States Patent Office.

The breaking out of the Civil War made their business boom. Many of the Massachusetts regiments were equipped with Noble & Cooley drums. The business grew so that machinery was necessary. They could not make drums fast enough by hand. Naturally they desired to use the cheapest power they could find, and nothing filled the bill so well as water power, but soon more power was needed than Dickinson Brook could furnish, so in 1865 a twenty horse power steam engine was added, and later in 1872 this was replaced

by one of double its capacity. The number of their employees had by this time increased to forty.

In 1868 they made what is believed to be the largest drum on record. It was eight feet in diameter and was made specially for use in Boston at the time of the first Grant presidential campaign. Later it was used at the Centennial celebration in 1876. It is said that a pair of horses was driven through the barrel of that drum before it was shipped from Granville. The heads were single skins and were obtained only after an extensive search for skins large enough to serve the purpose. It cost \$200.00 to manufacture this giant. After serving the ends for which it was made, it was kept in the Coliseum in Boston and was destroyed in that building when it was blown down in a terrible storm.

Noble & Cooley made not only military drums of all sizes, but also toy drums. To give some idea of the growth and extent of the business which had developed in this rural Town, far back from the railroad, the following figures are interesting.

<i>year</i>	<i>drums manu- factured</i>	<i>year</i>	<i>drums manu- factured</i>
1854	631	1860	35000
1855	1336	1861	40000
1856	3870	1862	50000
1857	5556	1863	58000
1858	12926	1873	100000
1859	25000		

Whenever anyone is financially successful in any line of business there are always those who immediately rush into that same business hoping to share the success. It was so with the drum business in Granville. No sooner were Noble & Cooley firmly established than others fell in love with the drum business. Bevil C. Dickinson had a mill with water power near the iron bridge over Dickinson Brook on the road through the gorge to Loomis Street, in Southwick. Here he began to make drums and later took his son Ethan into partnership. After the father died in 1895, Ethan carried on the business alone.

In Water Street Edward Holcomb had a saw mill, and there also

were two small machine shops, all of which utilized the water of the brook for power. The following is taken from the Granville Sun of April 1, 1881, (one of Granville's ventures into journalism). "Bruch and Barlow have bought Edward Holcomb's saw mill and keg shop on Water Street, and are going to manufacture drums." These two men were Adolph Bruch, who had been in the employ of Noble & Cooley, and Edmund Barlow, who had been in the employ of Mr. Dickinson. Bruch & Barlow built a new factory near the saw mill, so as to use the same source of power, and made drums there. This factory stood approximately where the present factory of the Noble & Cooley Co. stands. Later Edwin N. Henry was taken into the partnership and business was conducted under the name Bruch, Barlow and Henry. After a few years this partnership sold out its plant to Mr. Henry and Carlos Gibbons, who continued to make drums there until disaster fell upon Noble & Cooley in 1889.

Silas Noble died in 1888 and his son, Orville R., took his father's place in the business of the firm. In 1889 James P. Cooley died and his son, Ralph B., succeeded to his father's place in the firm which continued under the same name of Noble & Cooley. Misfortune, however, fell in that same year. Fire, the dreaded terror of all people in all places, broke out in the factory and in two hours or so, all was in ashes. But the sons were worthy of their sires. Dismayed, but not discouraged, they went to Gibbons & Henry to negotiate for their factory. As a result they purchased the Gibbons & Henry plant, and there began their business anew. The Noble & Cooley Company is still making drums on the same site. Wages in those days were not high, being for the most part twelve and a half cents an hour.

From time to time, in addition to drums, other lines were manufactured. In 1866 they began to make lawn croquet and parlor croquet sets. In that year 567 sets were made and this line of goods was continued until over 7000 sets had been made. In that same year they also began to make cigar lighters and continued making this article until they had made and sold 3056 barrels of them. In 1869 the manufacture of tooth picks was begun and in the space of four years they put on the market 757 cases of them. Each case

contained one hundred boxes and there were 2500 in each box. In 1872 they made rolling hoops for children, turning out 750 gross of them. They also made children's and doll's carriages, ten pins, mallet heads, zithers, tambourines, and various other items.

Special machinery was designed and built to make better drums and more of them, and then to make them still better. At first only a small amount of metal was used. Wood and leather were the chief materials. Wood was plenty and it was a boon to the farmers to be able to sell their hard wood logs so near home. The skins used for the heads of military drums were purchased raw in Liverpool and tanned in Granville. This made the tanning business flourish. But now wood as a component part has been largely eliminated. They have their own process for printing upon tin in colors. The making of a drum now is a very highly specialized operation.

Fire can be as unkind to one competitor as to another. The next year after the Noble & Cooley factory burned, the sky was again lighted by fire. This time it was the Dickinson factory, and in a few hours that too was in ashes. It has never been rebuilt, and the business carried on there has gone elsewhere. So it chanced that Noble & Cooley were again alone in their field.

However, there can be other troubles than fire. At the beginning of the twentieth century, there seemed to be a wave of big business overrunning and otherwise destroying small business. Combination was the idea of the hour. The novelty and toy trade did not escape. About December 10, 1902, The National Novelty Corporation was organized in New York to take over about ninety-five per cent. of the novelty manufacturing concerns in the United States as of January 1, 1903. After much negotiation and deliberation, Noble & Cooley decided to cast their lot in with the big concern, which they did, and the plant in Granville was taken over by the New York corporation at that time. But even the big fish which have swallowed the little ones, sometimes get swallowed in turn. So it was with The National Novelty Corporation. It was soon taken over by the still larger United States Hardware and Woodenware Corporation.

The manufacture of drums in Granville went along under the new regime in a progressively unsatisfactory way until finally Messrs. Noble and Cooley applied to the Court for the appoint-

ment of a Receiver. This application was granted and the so-called "trust" was broken up, with the result that the various properties had to be sold. When it came time for the sale of the Granville unit, Messrs. Noble and Cooley were on hand and bought it back. Thus ended Granville's experience in the realm of high finance. The business had to be built up again, which was done, and the "drum shop" hummed merrily once more. The business was incorporated as The Noble & Cooley Company, and upon the death of Mr. Noble in 1921, Mr. Cooley purchased the Noble interest and continued the business with the assistance of his nephew Ralph G. Hiers. Mr. Cooley died in 1935, Mr. Hiers died in 1953, and now his two sons are carrying on the business. They have begun to rebuild the plant by replacing the frame buildings with fireproof structures. This concern is the oldest and largest manufacturer of toy drums in the world, having been established in 1854. At times of peak production, with the present machinery, the factory gives employment to 100 persons and its capacity is 5000 drums per day. In the course of a year it makes and ships about 500000 drums, besides tambourines, banjos and other items. Some of the operatives have been in the employ of the concern fifty years, and not a few for thirty or more years. The wages have never been high, but it has not failed to give its employees their job every year.

As stated before, the drum factory has been the cause of many changes in Granville. When it was first built by the side of Dickinson Brook, Jockey Corners was a straggling little country hamlet, but as the factory grew, other families came to the village and other houses were built. The more families, the more trade for the store and the more people to attend the church. In a few years another meeting house was built. In 1883, the name of the post office in the village was changed to Granville and the village has come to be known by that name, although it is often spoken of as the Corners to distinguish it from the Center. The center of population is no longer at West Granville, but must be not far from Granville Center. When the excellent Granville Library building was built, it was located in Granville as it was thought it would from that point serve the greatest number of readers, the greater part of the business being in that part of the town.

The employees of Noble & Cooley's drum factory, like all young people everywhere, wanted amusement at times, so not long after 1880 they organized a brass band. The name adopted was the Drum Makers Band. It played on various festive occasions at home and in neighboring towns, but as those most interested moved away, or for other causes lost their interest, it was given up after a decade or so.

The Cemeteries

ONE of the less pleasant things of life which forcibly intrudes itself upon us, whether we will or no, is death. It matters not whether a community is in the pioneer stage or has centuries of history behind it, some provision must be made for the dead.

The first cemetery in Bedford, or "burying yard," to use the ancient designation, was, so far as can be ascertained, the one situated on the hill just west of what is now Granville Center. This location is not far from the site of the first meeting house, being easterly therefrom. The first mention of it in the records is found in the minutes of the meeting of the inhabitants held March 12, 1753, when it was voted that "Stephen Hickox and Joseph Clark (be) a Committee to call upon the persons that have not work(ed) at the Burying Yard, to work to clear and fence the same." It appears to have been just an irregular plot of land set apart for burial purposes and used by common consent. This view seems to be strengthened by the fact that the wall built around the cemetery enclosed also some land later claimed to be owned by Alfred Hamilton, for he gave a deed to the East Parish December 26, 1853, for the expressed consideration of \$27.00 for "land in connection with the Old Burial ground in said Parish in Granville and bounded on the stone wall now built around said grounds, of all the land I own inclosed within said wall," one half acre, more or less. Exactly how this claim arose, and what part of the cemetery it particularly affected, does not appear.

How long it had been used for burials prior to this time, we can not exactly tell, although an inscription on one of the headstones gives some information. It is the stone at the grave of Elizabeth Rose which shows when the grim Reaper began to stalk through the little settlement on the hills of Bedford. It is as follows:

Here lies the body of
Mrs. Elizabeth wife of
Mr. David Rose who
deceased Sept. 24, 1775,
In the 70 year of her age.

By her lies Lucy Rose
daughter of the said
Elizabeth, who deceased
Sept. 1742, in the
3 year of her age.
Being the first person laid
in this burying ground.

The child of Elizabeth Rose was not long the sole occupant of this lonely God's Acre. Sarah Pratt, five year old daughter of Capt. Phineas Pratt, died, according to the inscription on her headstone, Sept. 23, 1742. Thus for Granville began the ever recurring sorrows, and eleven years later the clearing of the ground was finished and it was fenced.

Many of the early graves are marked by stones without inscription, which appear to be such as might then have been, and may now be, picked up in the fields in the immediate neighborhood, and it is entirely possible, and may be quite probable, that one of these uninscribed stones may mark the grave of Samuel Gillet, who, as Dr. Cooley states in his historical discourse delivered at the Granville Jubilee, "fell dead while working in a field, the first death in Granville, 1739." In recent years this cemetery has not been used frequently. The most recent burial there is that of Mrs. Elizabeth S. (Beckman) Lemidon in 1943.

For about forty-five years no other burial place was used than the one just mentioned, but as more settlers arrived and more farms were carved out of the wilderness, there arose among those living west of the Great Valley a demand for a cemetery nearer to them, and on March 27, 1787, one acre of land was conveyed by deed of Ezra Baldwin to the Middle Parish of Granville for the consideration of £6, the Town of Granville having been in 1784 divided into "three separate Societies or Parishes." This deed recites that the land is to be used as a cemetery, and is recorded in Hampshire Registry of Deeds in Volume 28 at page 535. This new burying ground was not next to the highway, but on a knoll about thirty rods north of the highway on the easterly outskirts of the present village of West Granville, and access to it was had through a lane which passed over private land. The title to this lane was acquired by the Parish August 24, 1876, from Francis B. Cooley, of Hartford,

Connecticut, by deed recorded in Hampden Registry of Deeds in Volume 342 at page 208. This lane is described as five rods wide and extending northerly from the highway to the cemetery. The deed conveys this strip of land to the *West* Parish in Granville. Later an additional piece of land was secured from Linus Hubbard by deed dated November 25, 1884, and recorded in the last mentioned Registry of Deeds in Volume 401 at page 449. Still another piece was obtained from Mary J. Reeves by deed dated September 20, 1884, recorded in said Registry in Volume 412 at page 18. The Hubbard deed conveys the land to the Inhabitants of the Parish in West Granville, and the Reeves deed to the Inhabitants of West Granville.

As time went on, it came to be inconvenient and awkward to have the authority for all matters relating to the cemetery vested in such an indefinite body as the "West Parish" (formerly the Middle Parish) and so on May 5, 1906, the West Granville Cemetery Association was incorporated to care for the cemetery and perform all the duties formerly devolving upon the Parish in that regard. The title to all the four pieces of land above mentioned was duly conveyed by the West Parish to the Association by deed dated October 29, 1906, which is recorded in said Registry in Volume 720 at page 573.

Everything seemed then to be set to go ahead in an improved condition, but soon the question arose as to whether the West Parish had any authority at all in the matter, and whether the deed of the "Parish" was of any force or validity. Whatever the legal phase of the matter may have been, it was decided to keep on the safe side, and so a quit claim deed was secured from the Town of Granville releasing any claim it might have to the cemetery. This deed is dated March 15, 1907, and is recorded in said Registry in Volume 711 at page 435.

The records do not show what provision for a hearse existed in the early days, but this matter came before the annual Town meeting in 1825, although the Town did not own either of the two cemeteries then existing, and had nothing to do with their management or control, all of which authority was vested in the Parishes. However, at that meeting the Town voted to purchase two hearses,

one for use in the East Parish and the other for use in the West Parish.

As the population in the easterly part of the Town increased, it became a matter of convenience to have a cemetery in the southeast section for their accommodation. Just how this was worked out is not entirely clear, but it seems as though a plot of land nine rods long from north to south and extending back from the road now called Silver Street not far from its junction with the road from Granville to Granby, in the northwest corner of that part of the cemetery now occupied, was fenced off and was in all probability donated as a burial place by its public spirited then owner. Two facts lead to this conclusion. First; the most ancient date on any headstone, originally set in this cemetery, is in this earliest plot and it is March 24, 1808, on the stone at the grave of William C. Marvin, the seven months old son of Capt. William Marvin. Second; this land was at that time privately owned, because later a deed of it was given by Jonathan B. Bancroft and Ohel Spelman to the East Parish in Granville which describes a parcel of land nine rods long by six rods deep "being all the land within the present fence" which is also mentioned as a "board fence." The date of this deed is March 27, 1829, and it is recorded in Hampden Registry of Deeds in Volume 503 at page 310.

An interesting fact concerning the fence around this ancient plot may be noted. Soon after the cemetery was conveyed to the East Parish, the fence referred to in the original deed came to be in such a sad state of dilapidation that a new one was an imperative necessity. The matter was duly considered and a committee was appointed to ascertain the relative expense of a new fence, and the committee was directed to get figures for each of the following kinds; a board fence, a picket fence and a stone wall. When the estimates were all received, it was finally decided to have a stone wall and a contract was made for it to be laid at a price of one dollar a rod, the builder to furnish and draw his own stone. How wise this choice was may easily be appreciated if one looks at this old wall, two thirds of which is now standing. That part of the wall marking the south side of the cemetery as it then was, has long since been removed for the accommodation of additions to the south. How skillful and

honest the builder of this old wall was, is demonstrated by the wall itself. It has needed no repair for over a century and it still stands in its rugged simplicity just as it was built.

This little plot of ground filled all the needs of neighboring population for the next thirty years. Then an additional area on the east and south was obtained by a deed dated May 13, 1859, from Sparrow Crosby. This deed conveys half an acre of land, more or less, and speaks of the original plot as the "Burying Ground". It is interesting to note that this piece of land was conveyed to the "Proprietors and Owners of the Burying Ground in the Southeast School District," a long and rather vague title. The deed is recorded in said Registry in Volume 504 at page 183.

Thus matters stood for about another thirty years, when a corporation was formed by the name of Proprietors of the Granville Cemetery to put the affairs of the cemetery on a business basis and attend to the care of the premises which had theretofore been left to the interest of the families having lots there. This corporation is now called the Granville Cemetery Association. One of its first acts was to secure some additional land which it did by deed of Charlotte E. Malone, dated November 18, 1892, describing an irregular shaped lot 225 feet on Silver Street and about 178 feet deep. This piece is also south and east of the last mentioned piece. This deed is recorded in said Registry in Volume 504 at page 184. Then, to get its affairs straightened out, the Association secured a deed from the East Parish conveying the Bancroft plot and the Crosby plot to it March 15, 1893, which is recorded in Volume 502 at page 210.

The south line of the cemetery then was not just as desired, so a small triangle of land was purchased from the late Sherman Beckwith by deed dated November 18, 1895, and recorded in Volume 538 at page 380. This piece was forty feet wide on the highway and running to a point at the southeast corner of the cemetery.

A few years later an additional piece of land was secured from the same Mr. Beckwith. This time the area was described as one acre, more or less, and was immediately south of the last described piece, and extends southerly as far as a private road of the late

Ralph B. Cooley. This deed is dated May 15, 1915, and is recorded in Volume 928 at page 274.

All these additions to the original plot have been toward the south, or south and east, so that now the south line of the cemetery is very near the top of the hill.

In 1934 an additional area was secured from the late Ralph B. Cooley. This addition is on the northerly side of the cemetery and is stated to be 400 feet on Silver Street and 300 feet deep, having the easterly line parallel with the highway, which brings the southeast corner of the plot around into the rear of the original walled in area. This deed is dated October 31, 1934, and is recorded in Volume 1564 at page 335. Part of this section has been graded and cleared of brush and is available when needed.

In the year 1902 one of the Town's public spirited citizens, Mrs. Maria C. Holcomb, caused to be erected in the cemetery a commodious and appropriate granite receiving vault, which she gave to the Cemetery Association for its use in behalf of those owning lots there. The cemetery was equipped with running water in 1925 and most of the area is provided with perpetual care.

The East Parish was provided with another cemetery by a gift of Elihu Stow, who owned the land on the east side of the Eleventh Turnpike just north of the small pond northwesterly from the present village of Granville Center. This gift included the small knoll near the road now well shaded with trees. The plot was described as being thirteen rods from north to south and seven rods deep, containing one half acre and eleven rods, to be used for burial purposes. Mr. Stow reserved a portion four rods square for a family lot for himself. This deed is dated April 15, 1811, and is recorded in Hampden Registry of Deeds in Volume 56 at page 596. This cemetery was first used in 1816 as appears by the following inscription:

The ground in this yard
was first opened to receive
the Body of Alsop P. Stow
son of Alva &
Lucy Stow
died Feb. 2, 1816,
aged 3 Ye. & 10 Mo.

February in Granville is ordinarily a rather bleak month, and there were no trees around the cemetery then, neither was there any dwelling near by, so one can well understand that it was a quite lonely spot. It is known that the loneliness of the place caused much worry to the parents who had left their little one there, but this wore off as the cemetery was used by others and became a more frequented place.

Feeling that the cemetery should be somewhat larger, Mr. Stow gave some more land and executed another deed April 14, 1824, which contained a more accurate description, which begins at a rock a few rods north of the pond and makes the cemetery extend northerly along the road eighteen rods and ten links, and is eight rods wide at the north end, six rods at the south end. This deed is recorded in said records in Volume 619 at page 256.

From the fact that the land was the gift of Mr. Stow and also the fact that not a few by the name of Stow are buried there, the cemetery came to be called the Stow Cemetery and this name obtained until it was desired to have a more definite control of the management and sale of lots therein. Then, in 1912, The Woodland Cemetery Association was incorporated, and this Association now cares for the cemetery, which is now known as the Woodland Cemetery.

For the convenience of the residents in the northeast part of the Town a cemetery seemed to be needed, and thereby arose a very unusual condition. A gravelly knoll on the east side of the main road, as it then was, from Granville to Westfield, a short distance north of the point where Tillotson Brook crosses the road, was then owned by Joel Root. By some sort of private arrangement, to which all the residents in that part of the Town seem to have been parties, Mr. Root conveyed to them in common the plot of ground now known as the North East Cemetery. It appears that only those families of the grantees in the deed have the right of burial there. The deed sets forth a consideration of five dollars and is from Joel Root to Jonathan B. Bancroft, Timothy C. Tillotson, Levi Brown, Reuben Eno, Calvin Wells, Edmund King, Ely Strong, Lot Clark, Isaac Rose, Leander Strickland, Lemuel I. Bancroft, Alanson Warner, Lyman Rose, William Cooley, Luke Winchel, Eleazer Strong,

Harlow H. Hayes, Justus Rose, Jr., Roderick Pomeroy, Appollos Lambson, William Chickley and Giles Rose, and it conveys the following described land, viz., beginning at the southwest corner of land lately belonging to the heirs of Capt. Bela Bancroft, deceased, on the east side of the highway from Granville to Westfield, adjoining William Cooley's land, thence easterly on said Cooley eight rods; thence northerly five rods; thence westerly eight rods to said highway; thence southerly five rods to the place of beginning, containing forty rods of land to be used and improved by the above named grantees for a Burying ground only, and the said grantees agree to build and keep in repair a good board fence around the same. Reserving to myself and heirs one twenty-third part of the above named land.

This deed is dated April 2, 1831, and is recorded in Hampden Registry of Deeds in Volume 88 at page 67. So far as can be learned there has been no formal conveyance of his share by any of the grantees named in said deed, and the land seems to have been considered as belonging to the local community, and used accordingly.

The earliest burial in this cemetery was that of Hannah B. Chickley, the wife of William Chickley, who died August 30, 1831. The inscription on her headstone states: "This is the first body buried in this yard." Most of the above named grantees, or some member of their family, are buried in this little cemetery, but there have been only a few burials there since 1900. This cemetery is now on the *west* side of the road due to a removal of the road to a more desirable grade.

A curious fact in connection with this cemetery is that on one headstone there are inscriptions relating the deaths of four children of Lot and Sibil Clark. These deaths all occurred before 1820, and two of them as early as 1803. It seems likely that these burials were first made in a private family cemetery and then later removed to this place. Such a procedure was not uncommon in Granville. There have been at least two well known instances of this kind in town in comparatively recent years. Otis Dickinson laid out and enclosed, prior to 1864, a family cemetery on the north side of the road to Southwick just west of the house where Richard Dickinson now lives. This private cemetery was used by the Dickinson family for

forty or more years, but ultimately those buried there were all removed to the present South East Cemetery. Then too there was formerly a family cemetery on the west side of a cross-road, now little used, in the lowest part of the valley which runs northerly from the main road between Granville Center and West Granville to the Woodland Cemetery. In this instance, as in the case of the Dickinson family cemetery, all those buried there have been removed to other and larger cemeteries. This small burial place was not far from a blacksmith shop which used to stand on the west side of this little cross-road.

A lonely little burial plot, having only one headstone, lies in the southwesterly part of the Town. It is beside an abandoned highway which ran westerly from the principal road between West Granville and West Hartland, Connecticut. This abandoned highway is quite near the Connecticut state line. It is also near, or partly in, the Granville-Tolland State Forest. The only headstone in this plot is that of a Civil War soldier, Julius F. Searl, who died February 22, 1864.

The Taverns

THE impulse of wanderlust is in us all. The only difference between individuals in this regard is the degree of the strength of that impulse. We all enjoy going to some place other than where we are. It is a far cry from the time when a convenient tree served as a shelter over night for a roving specimen of the genus homo, with his protecting war club in his hand, to the present day of palatial hostelrys with swarms of servants, reasonable safety and delectable food. Somewhere between these extremes the tavern made its appearance, and when the word tavern is mentioned herein, it is used with its old original meaning of hotel, and it does not mean the present day tavern, which is merely the successor of the drinking saloon of a few years ago.

It was in the days of long ago, the days before the advent of the railroads, that the taverns had their most flourishing period. Our ancestors in early New England were doubtless influenced more by their church than by any other single factor, but the taverns ran a very close second. In addition to their religion, pioneers deemed it essential to have their rum, and frequently rum arrived in the frontier towns before religion. But it was not so in Granville, however, because the Rev. Moses Tuttle, the first settled minister in Town, was ordained as pastor of the First Church in January, 1747, and the first mention of any tavern in Granville is in 1755, when a license as an "Innholder, Taverner and Common Victualer" was granted to Phineas Pratt. It is interesting to note that this license authorized Mr. Pratt to render these services "in his house." This feature was embodied in most of the early licenses. The next year Mr. Pratt renewed his license and Timothy Robinson also secured one to be effective "in his house." Thereafter the number of places of public entertainment and refreshment increased until in 1794 there were nine such places in Town. Those who kept the taverns were the most progressive and prosperous citizens of the community. Very generally their houses and barns were larger than those of their neighbors. These taverns were not confined to the main

roads, although that was principally their location. Of course they sprang up on the turnpikes, because there the travelling was better and more people were going back and forth.

These old taverns not only furnished the traveler and his horse with food and shelter, but they were clearing houses for most of the news of the times. Not every one could read and newspapers were rare, but those who journeyed brought news from all parts of the Colonies, and later the States as well. Then too, in another way they served an important end. It was there that public opinion was in large measure formed. The affairs of Colony, State and Nation were talked over pro and con, and the followers fell into line with the leaders. They were the club houses of those days.

Most, if not all, of the tavern keepers in Granville were such in addition to their regular means of livelihood. Thus Ephraim Munson was Town Clerk and a maker of potash as well as a tavern keeper; Levi Curtiss was a cabinet maker; Theodore Goodwin was a hatter; Oliver Phelps was a merchant; Thaddeus Squire was postmaster (and probably a merchant as well); many were farmers. About 1810 Elihu Stow built a building expressly for use as a tavern. It was on the east side of the road and a short distance south of the house formerly occupied by the late Marshall V. Stow. This tavern was one of the most pretentious in Granville at any time. It was large, commodious, two stories high and painted white. It was called Pilgrims' Rest. It had a large coach yard and the out buildings incident to its business. Mr. Stow was granted a license in 1811 and for seventy-five years the place was used as a first class tavern. That it was a popular stopping place may be judged from the fact that more than eighty teams have been known to stop there in a single day for food or shelter or both. This venerable building was torn down about 1925 in preparation for the building of the Cobble Mountain Reservoir.

Many of the buildings formerly used as taverns have been destroyed by fire, and in as much as the records of the ancient licenses do not disclose the locations of the old taverns, other than the Town where they were, very little trustworthy information has come down to us concerning buildings now standing wherein taverns formerly were kept. From the best information obtainable it is believed the

following houses are among those once used as taverns: the one where Nelson M. Frisbie lived; the house on Beech Hill where David Smith formerly lived; the one in Granville Center where Edward A. Jensen lives; the house southerly from the Great Rock where David Kenney lives; the one where Dr. Clifford A. White lived, about half way from Granville Center to Granville; the one in Granville village where Miss Clara Wilcox lives, which survived the tavern days and was later called a hotel and is the last building in Town to have been conducted as such; the house where Douglas Davin lives; the house where Joseph L. Dickinson now lives, which has the old wine cellar still intact. Part of the original Gibbons Store (the one burned in 1884) was used as a tavern and was kept by Frank Tinker.

Sometimes when a tavern keeper died his widow would secure a license in her own name and carry on the business. Such was the case of Joseph Baldwin who had kept a tavern seven years and died in February, 1798. His widow promptly had the license renewed in her name and kept the tavern until she married again and removed from Granville. Another was Nathan Curtiss who kept a tavern in West Granville two years and died in December, 1817. His widow Nancy continued keeping the tavern until 1824.

Curiously enough there appears to be no record of any tavern licenses issued to Granville applicants in the years 1776, 1777 and 1802. It may be that in the former two years the County authorities were so busy with the War for Independence that they had no time to waste on keeping records, but the lapse in the latter year is inexplicable. It is not reasonable to think that those having taverns in Granville during the years just previous to, and also just subsequent to the lapse in the records should have in those particular years shut up their taverns and refused to entertain travelers seeking food and shelter. That was not like the Granville people. Samuel Dodd Wilcox kept a tavern continuously from 1792 to 1807, but there is no record of his having a license in 1802. Others had similar records. It is safe to say that the tavern keepers in Granville kept open house during the hiatus, even though there is no record to prove it.

Tavern keepers were not the only ones who had licenses to sell

intoxicating liquor. It seems to have been customary for those who conducted the country stores to have a license to sell liquor which was not to be drunk on the premises. These were called "retailers licenses" and were common until the Civil War.

The sale of food, drink and lodging was not the only thing requiring a license in those early days. George Pynchon, Jr., for several years beginning with 1760 was licensed to "sell tea, coffee and china ware." Apparently he was so successful in this line that he also took up the tavern business in 1764 and followed it for at least ten years thereafter.

With the coming of railroads, transportation of passengers by the slow-moving stage coach, and of freight by heavy horse-drawn wagons, began to diminish and soon ceased to be remunerative, and the tavern keepers' chief source of income was destroyed to such an extent that most of them were forced to close their taverns from lack of patronage. This, together with other causes which brought about a dwindling population, and also the rise of much anti-saloon sentiment, put the finishing touches on the tavern business, which became less and less until it is, in Granville, a thing of the past. Columbus Wilcox was the last person in Town to conduct a tavern or hotel as a regular business. Mr. Wilcox held his last liquor license in 1885, but continued to have a common victualer's license until his death in 1912. Since then there has been no inn or hotel in Granville, except during the summer seasons of 1917 and 1918 when Mrs. John M. Stevenson caused most delightful summer hotel accommodation to be offered at the Oriole Inn in Granville Center, the beautiful mansion which Dr. Holland N. Stevenson now owns. The idea of such a hotel was prior to any paved road in Town and the anticipated travel did not materialize.

Traditions

IN the course of time anecdotes, traditions, myths and legends develop and accumulate around and about historic settlements to a greater or less extent. Few concerning Granville have come down to us. However, there are some which deserve to be rescued from oblivion.

The most interesting is one about the Counterfeiters' Cave. In the early days robbers, counterfeiters and other bad men, if they ran true to form, had caves, dens, hidden gold, etc., etc., with a map, more or less hieroglyphic, to describe the location, and the treasure, if any. Granville's tradition, or maybe myth, runs in the regular style, which may possibly be construed as an indication of its falsity. In any event the *map* existed.

Some years ago, perhaps fifty more or less, a stranger showed up in Granville. He came from the west. He claimed to be the son of a former counterfeiter. His story went on to the effect that his father and two others were, once upon a time, engaged in making counterfeit United States money and had their headquarters in a cave somewhere in the northeast part of Granville; that they had a considerable stock of both gold and silver in the cave as well as the necessary tools for use in making the coin; that the United States authorities were hot on the trail of these men who promptly decided it was more discreet to run than to stay and save their gold; that thereupon they covered up the entrance to their cave with a large A-shaped flat stone, made some sort of a sketch of the place and hurriedly sought safer territory; that his father, who was the survivor of the three men, had recently died; and that if he could find the cave, he would not have to work any more during his life time.

Up to this point the story follows the classic lines of such tales, and it might fit any place. This stranger had the sketch, and the curious part of the story is the fact that some of the data fitted this location. Then too, there was the further fact that many years before the appearance of this claimant, a notorious counterfeiter,

Richard Brunton by name, had lived for a considerable time in or around Suffield, but was then dead.

The trail to the cave started at the cross-roads near the old "swamp house," so-called, where the Wildcat Road joins the Old Road to Westfield; thence it went easterly along the then public highway toward the Dexter Farnham place a certain number of rods; thence northerly following an old road (which was the original road from Westfield to Granville) a certain distance to a point where a stone in the wall beside this old road would be found marked with a cross; thence easterly to three stone steps set in a little steep slope; then *due east* to the cave. The directions seem to have been not very complicated. The distance from the starting point to the original Westfield road checked. The stone with a cross on it in the wall was where the data placed it. The stone steps were located, but the cave eluded all search.

The stranger hunted industriously several weeks without result and went away promising to return the next year and search further. During his stay here he became very friendly with the late Clinton C. Smith. The stranger never returned to Granville, and later Mr. Smith and one or two others searched at different times for the cave, but it was never found.

Whether it ever existed or not, it is a pretty tale of classic pattern.

Another legend, less fantastic, entirely plausible and probably true, relates to the visit of General Burgoyne to Granville. After the battle of Saratoga, the General and some of his officers were taken to Boston as prisoners of war. This much is a matter of record. The prisoners, under a sufficient guard, were escorted over the so-called Knox Trail through Otis, Blandford and Westfield. The Colonial officers in charge of the expedition were unfamiliar with the road, and taking a wrong turning somewhere in Otis or Blandford, found themselves, when it came night, at the famous Pilgrim Rest tavern kept by Mr. Stow in North Lane. Here the captured General was housed and fed for the night, and the group went on their way the following morning. Probably the details of this story are true.

Political animosities are frequently the most bitter of all those arising out of our social relations, and such would seem to have been the case of the Merriam brothers who lived in the Silver Street section of Granville in the 1850's.

These brothers, Elizur and Hira, were of opposite political beliefs. Elizur was a Whig and Hira was a Democrat. Each one subscribed to a weekly newspaper which set forth the political views he favored. Elizur took the Hartford Courant, a Whig paper, and Hira took the Hartford Times, a Democratic paper. Each of the brothers was so violently hostile to the newspaper of the other and the principles maintained by it, that whenever it became necessary for Elizur to handle the Times, he always used the tongs in so doing. Hira returned the compliment as to the Courant. That was the nearest they were willing to approach such detested publication.

An episode occurred in the Granville Center meeting house, and at this late date seems rather humorous. It happened during the pastorate of Rev. Mr. Geikie. Some slight misunderstanding in the choir caused a schism. The situation went from bad to worse. Tempers flared up. No one was willing to concede anything. Soon there were two choirs. On the Sunday in question, the choir which arrived first at the meeting house promptly took possession of the choir loft. The other choir took up its position in one of the side galleries. When Mr. Geikie announced the first hymn, both choirs sang the words of the hymn given out by the minister, but each to a different tune. The remaining hymns were served in the same way, each choir singing lustily so as not to be outdone by the other. It must have been near pandemonium. The congregation was at first thunder-struck and shocked, but soon saw the funny side and laughed. That laugh worked wonders. The singers could stand spiteful words and other displays of temper, but not ridicule. Soon the rumpus quieted down and ere long peace reigned again.

Life was at times somewhat strenuous in Granville in the early days, but seldom monotonous. Teaching the three R's was not exempt from occasions when the teacher needed to be in full possession of his faculties, physical as well as mental. It was usual

that the boys in a family did not attend school except for a few weeks in the winter. One result of this custom was that very generally the boys went to school every winter until they were well past their majority, and the mischief these young men could not think of was not worth mentioning. One of the chief sports was throwing the teacher out into the snow. When this happened it usually broke up the school, for a time at least.

The following incident occurred in the Stow District. A man teacher was engaged as usual. Also as usual there were five or six boys from 21 to 24 years of age attending that school that winter, primarily for the fun there might be in it, and secondarily for such a modicum of learning as they might chance to acquire. Before the end of the first week of the term, they had thrown the teacher into a snow drift and he was ready to quit. Another teacher was engaged, and he met the same fate. The residents of the District were disposed to resent such treatment of their servant, but although they grumbled, they engaged still another teacher, who was expected to keep order in that remote temple of learning. He lasted three days. By that time the people of the Stow District were aroused. At a meeting of the inhabitants it was decided to seek for, and to secure, a man who could "teach school," whether he had any education himself or not. Such a man was found and engaged. He started on Monday morning. Everything went smoothly that day.

One of the features of that school house was that it had two doors leading from the vestibule into the school room. For years it had been the custom, and the rule as well, for the boys to enter the room by one of the doors and the girls to enter by the other. The school master's desk was between these doors.

On Tuesday morning all was quiet as usual. When the bell rang for the pupils to assemble after the noon intermission, the teacher was standing by his desk. All the big boys came marching in through the girls' door.

One who was a small boy and was present at that school on that day told the writer that things began to happen very fast at that moment. He said that the teacher's coat flew off "as though stripped off by lightning. He jumped at the boys and knocked them down right and left as fast as they came through the girls' door." In less

than a minute it was all over. There was no more trouble all winter. The old resident said with a smile: "He sure *was* a school teacher."

The Stow District was not the only place where events sometimes moved at a faster tempo. In the winter of 1883-4, the teacher in the grammar department of the Granville school (District No. 3) was Miss Susie A. Rockwood. Some of the scholars were of a mischievous turn of mind and were ready for anything that offered variety in the daily routine. It occurred to some of these youngsters that it would be very funny to create an unwholesome smell in the school room and see what would happen, so on January 16, 1884, when the stove was quite hot, some scraps of rubber were thrown onto the hot stove. The odor was pretty bad and the teacher was pretty angry, but the mischief-makers were not satisfied, so in the early afternoon, having procured a generous supply of black pepper, and having seen to it that the stove was nearly red hot, this lot of pepper was thrown onto the top of the hot stove. The effect of the burning rubber in the morning was a very mild prelude to the afternoon pepper. The atmosphere at once became almost strangling and the school had to be dismissed. Miss Rockwood knew when she had been crowded too far. She immediately went to the School Committee and filed charges of misconduct against certain of the pupils and demanded that the Committee do something about it. Whereupon the Committee did do something, and just what is better set forth in Mr. Felton's record, as follows:

Jan. 22, 1884.

"Pursuant to a call from the Chairman and the Secretary of the S. Com., said Com. met at the home of the Sec. at 2 P.M. for the purpose of examining the charges brought by the teacher of the Grammar School, Miss Susie A. Rockwood, against (and here are named nine of the pupils of the school), these pupils having been on Monday, Jan. 21, suspended from the school until the S. Com. could consider and decide upon the case.

2. The Com., all being present, proceeded at once to examine the evidence submitted by the teacher with a view to define the charges and if possible ascertain the measure of guilt attached to each delinquent.

3. While engaged in this labor the Com. were waited upon by all but one of the men whose children were under censure asking

for a hearing and earnestly requesting the Com. to adjourn their meeting to the school room.

4. After some consultation the Com. conceded to the request and, it getting late in the day, adjourned to meet on the 25th at 1 o'clock P. M. or as soon thereafter as they could get together in the upper school room in Dis. No. 3.

Jan. 25, 1884.

School Com. met according to adjournment at 2 P. M. in the Grammar School Room.

1. The meeting called to order by the chairman, Mr. J. C. Carpenter, 1st Selectman, was unanimously requested and chosen by the S. Com. to preside as Moderator. Mr. Carpenter took the chair.

2. Rev. L. Warner, member of the S. Com. by invitation of the Moderator, offered prayer.

3. The following Preliminaries having been previously adopted by the Com. for the conduct of the meeting were read by the Sec. of S. Com.

(1) That our first business shall be to finish the work commenced yesterday.

(2) That our voting shall be by Yeas and Nays written on ballots deposited independently of each other; that the Moderator shall count the votes and mark the results unknown to any member of the Com.; that two Nays shall be a decisive vote against expulsion but if two Yeas only are cast, it shall not be declared a vote, but the Com. shall be requested to vote again. If only two Yeas are cast on the 2nd balloting even this shall not be declared a vote; but on the third balloting, even tho there be but two Yeas cast it shall be declared a vote, and the pupils thus designated shall by this threefold affirmative vote be expelled. Never the less, the Moderator who counts the votes shall not reveal whether any of these votes are Yeas or Nays.

(3) If any of these pupils shall by vote of the Com. be expelled for the remainder of the term, they are by the same vote of the Com. also expelled for the same length of time from the school premises, but such expulsion shall affect their attendance only during the remainder of the present term.

(4) No one of those pupils now under censure, even tho not expelled by vote of the Com. shall be permitted to return to school as a pupil without having first made to the teacher a solemn promise to obey her instructions and to maintain proper deportment.

4. The Sec. after reading the Records of yesterdays meeting, asked the privilege to read the following paper, namely—

Before presenting the charges preferred against the pupils now under censure the Com. wish to state one fact which we consider of very grave importance, namely—That in consequence of what occurred on Tuesday P.M., Jan. 15th, the teacher on opening her school on the morning Jan. 16th, before allowing any of her pupils to stand at the stove, exacted from each one of them a solemn promise to do nothing more to cause disturbance in the school, and yet in less than two hours she was annoyed with rubber on the stove and just before 1 P.M. her room was so filled with fumes of burning pepper that no one could stay in the room and the school was entirely broken up for the remainder of the day.

The Sec. then read from the Statutes the penalty for disturbing a school and remarked to the school that everyone who was implicated in this matter was liable to be arrested and that whatever action the town may take today, whether to expel or not, it would not relieve them from such liability in that any citizen in town could at any time demand their arrest; that they had caused the town's money to be needlessly squandered and any voter in town had a right to demand redress.

5. At this stage of the meeting, papers being put into the hands of the Moderator, upon each of which was written the name of one of the suspended pupils, with charges against him, the Com. commenced examining these charges and invited any one present to show cause, if any there were, why any of these charges should be withdrawn.

6. When paper No. 1 had been in this way disposed of the pupil whose name it contained was voted upon and the result of the vote noted by the Moderator on the back of the sheet.

7. In this way, as rapidly as the disorder and confusion would admit, the several papers were disposed of, the Moderator in the mean time several times calling for order and even the Constable himself doing the same.

8. After having voted upon all under censure the Com. urgently requested all to be quiet long enough to enable the Moderator to announce the results of the balloting and to enable Rev. L. Warner to make a few closing remarks.

9. The Moderator declared the result of the votes to be that not one was expelled.

10. Rev. L. Warner then rose and remarked in substance, as follows: "The Com. have not voted as they have because they consider these pupils innocent of the charges, but because they desired

to give the guilty ones another trial; that this case of insubordination was the worst one he ever knew or heard of etc."

11. Voted to dissolve the meeting.

With the changing tempo of life, Granville has lost certain picturesque characters who formerly were frequently seen and well known in the town. These will soon be traditional figures.

In the days of domestic manufacture many homemade wares were marketed by their makers through the simple expedient of peddling them in the surrounding territory. The most striking of these peripatetic merchants was the so called "tin peddler." During the winter season he would make up a large stock of the ordinary household tin ware and, as soon as the roads became settled in the spring, he would load up his cart and set forth to sell his product. In addition to his tin ware he usually carried a stock of brooms and mop handles.

The tin peddler's cart was a vehicle in a class by itself. There was nothing else like it. It was always painted red. It was large and commodious. It had a high seat in front close to the dash board. The body was roofed over and the sides were so made that they could be securely locked up.

The usual tin peddler was essentially a trader. He would sell almost anything he had and would buy anything he could carry off in his cart and sell again. He took pay for his wares in many kinds of materials; rags, old brass and copper, raw furs, as well as cash. His appearance in town was a real event. He brought the news from far and near. He had a fund of stories, and could tell them well. He usually stayed over night with the same family year after year, and paid for his lodging with his wares. He was a real Yankee.

Another peddler well known in Granville was a man by the name of Bronson who sold essences and extracts of various kinds. These essences he prepared at his home, and then journeyed about the country selling them. His goods were dependable and had no small part in producing the remarkable flavor of the pastry for which the Granville cooks have always been famous. In the days before mass production and swift transportation, Mr. Bronson's coming was frequently awaited with eagerness.

One more travelling merchant must be mentioned. He was the yeast peddler. Yeast was a very necessary item for every family in town. Some families made their own yeast. Commercial yeast was somewhat of a luxury and not always to be depended on. Commercial baking, except in large cities, was not known. Every woman made the bread used in her family, and if the family was large and hearty, it took a loaf or two every day to supply the need.

In the town of Agawam there was formerly a distillery which manufactured gin. In connection with this business great quantities of yeast were produced. Some intelligent individual conceived the idea of selling this necessary article in the surrounding towns. The result was that Myron Kent became the yeast peddler who came to Granville on certain days of the week with fresh and potent germs of fermentation. He, too, was in the nature of an institution, but his business, like so many other small lines of enterprise, has succumbed to the changed economy of the times. Another picturesque character of the country side has gone with the wind.

There was formerly still another kind of merchandise which came to Granville. That was fine linens, cotton goods, laces and notions. These things were carried by a class called "pack peddlers." These men were generally newly arrived from eastern Europe. They worked out from the larger cities carrying their stock, or "pack," on their backs. When starting on their trips these packs weighed from 75 to 100 pounds. These pack peddlers, if they chanced to have a fair command of the common English words, were sometimes most interesting people to talk with. However, with the coming of rapid transportation, these travelling merchants have become merely a memory.

Sarah Gibbons knew a bear when she saw one, and, what is more to the point, she was not afraid of one. We know this by virtue of what happened at Oven Rock one balmy summer evening nearly 200 years ago.

Peter Gibbons, the first of the name to come to Granville, and his wife Sarah, came to Bedford in 1750 and built their cabin near the tiny brook which has its rise near the southerly end of Water Street and flows southeasterly into Connecticut. There is now a

road extending from the southerly end of Water Street down the valley joining the Granby Road at the old Daniels Place in the Town of Granby. Roughly this road runs east and west. The tiny brook rises on the north side of it and flows in its own little valley southerly crossing this road a few rods east of Water Street. Almost immediately after crossing the road it turns easterly and tumbles down over the hill in the same direction as the road. When Peter and Sarah arrived in Bedford this road did not exist, so they placed their cabin in a convenient spot and started their home in the wilderness. Among other things necessary to their mode of life, was an oven in which to cook food. As brick with which to build one could not be had, they made their oven out of stones and mud, and in order to have it as substantial as possible, it was built against a large rock or boulder which was not far from their house. That boulder was called the Oven Rock, and the name persists, even till today. Peter had cleared the land in this little valley and was bringing it into a tillable farm. For more than a century the field in which Oven Rock lies was a hay field. Now it is all grown up to trees and brush. This Rock lies on the south side of the road to the Daniels Place and is about six or eight rods easterly from the point where the brook crosses the road. It is about three rods south of the road and a little less than that distance north of the brook.

One day in August, 1752, Sarah had done her baking and the food had been left at the oven door to cool off. Or possibly the oven was used as a safe place to keep food. However that may be, along toward sundown Sarah and her little daughter were going to the oven to get some bread. As she came near she saw a black bear at the oven door helping himself to her bread. Did she cry, or run back to the house, or call for Peter? Nothing of the kind. Her bread must be saved. No bear should have it. She seized a club and with a yell she ran at the bear, brandishing her stick. The bear, unused to the terrifying sight of an enraged woman with a club, dropped the bread and ran for the woods as fast as his legs could carry him.

Oh yes, our ancestors had courage, the women as well as the men.

Many, perhaps most, New England towns have Indian tradition

or history connected with their beginnings of development. Granville has both. To begin with, there was Toto. That is a matter of public record. The tradition has to do with certain Indian burials. There are certain residents in Granville who have a fixed belief that certain graves in the old cemetery west of Granville Center are graves of the long since vanished red men. Like most traditions, there are certain phases of the story, about which it would be more reassuring if we had some definite knowledge. However, upon the authority of an old resident, this tradition chronologically put together seems to be as follows:—After the settlement of the Granville area by white men, a family or two of Indians, probably Mohawks, temporarily settled here. What were their names, where did they live, whither did they go, are facts which have escaped the record. It is said that six of their number died here and were buried in a small plot, about a rod square, near the road in the southwest corner of land in Granville Center formerly owned by Mrs. A. C. Sternberg, Jr. This part of the story is supported by the fact that at that location there is a small plot about the size mentioned which is raised slightly above the level of the surrounding land. And further, there formerly stood in that plot six common field stones, each about six inches square and sticking up out of the ground about a foot and a half. In that condition the plot remained until some time prior to the Civil War, when, so the story goes, somebody living at the Corners had the idea that those unoffending and long dead Indians should be removed to the Southeast Cemetery and a stone, with a suitable inscription, be erected to their memory. This idea was not acceptable to the residents of East Granville, as the Center was then called. Those residents had no objection to the removal, but they did object to the Southeast Cemetery being brought into it. There was a cemetery on the hill and if there was to be any removal, it should be to that cemetery and not to the Southeast, and to make sure that their side of the controversy should prevail, they proceeded at once to remove such remains as could be found and made new burials in the Old Cemetery. Whether or not this is exactly what occurred, it is a fact that there are a few graves in the Old Cemetery which are marked only by field stones, and these graves are the ones pointed out by those who say Indians are buried in that cemetery.

The stone markers in the plot in Mrs. Sternberg's land for many years lay on a large boulder near by, but have now been removed and put to other uses.

However near to, or far from, the truth this tradition may be, there is authentic record of a few Indian burials in Granville. These were made prior to 1796. Four Mohawk children died and were "buried in Buttles' land near State line." So runs the record.

In Conclusion

THE foregoing is an effort to depict the principal events and the actors therein, occurring in the present life span of a typical small hill town in New England. To witness the carving of homesteads from the primeval forest should be an inspiration. To recall the hardships encountered and the obstacles overcome should be a challenge. To know the aims and aspirations of a vigorous people should give us confidence in the future of our Town, our Commonwealth and our Country.

The dwellers on the Granville hills have always been willing to toil, to give adequate value for what they received, to stand up for their opinions, to defend, with their substance and their lives, our country in time of stress. They have a record of two centuries of achievement, and the end is not yet. We may well be proud of Granville and its people. An historic town and a sturdy race ensconced in the everlasting hills.

APPENDIX

THE official description of the Town of Granville promulgated by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts is as follows:

SOUTH SIDE: Beginning at the corner of Granby–Granville–Southwick at a merestone, thence north $88^{\circ} 47'$ west seventy-eight hundred seven feet to the corner Granby–Granville–Hartland merestone; thence north $88^{\circ} 49'$ west twenty-six hundred fifteen feet to a corner merestone on a southerly slope of South Mountain; thence south $89^{\circ} 48'$ west seventeen thousand eight hundred thirty-three feet to a corner merestone on the westerly brow of cultivated land sixty feet east of the traveled way following the east bank of Hubbard Brook; thence north $88^{\circ} 33'$ west ten thousand eight hundred eighty-eight feet to the corner Granville–Hartland–Tolland merestone.

WEST SIDE: Beginning at the corner Blandford–Granville–Tolland merestone, thence south $8^{\circ} 30'$ east twenty-one thousand two hundred sixty-two feet to a merestone fifty feet east of the east bank of Hubbard Brook; thence in the same direction one hundred thirty-five feet to a point in the middle of a wooden bridge over the brook on the Granville–Tolland road; thence south $9^{\circ} 13'$ west fourteen thousand nine hundred ten feet to the merestone at the corner Granville–Hartland–Tolland.

NORTH SIDE: Beginning at the corner Granville–Southwick–Westfield merestone, thence north $9^{\circ} 22'$ west thirty-five hundred twelve feet to a merestone; thence south $73^{\circ} 12'$ west forty-one hundred thirty-one feet to a merestone at the corner of Granville–Russell–Westfield; thence north $73^{\circ} 59'$ west eleven thousand seven hundred eighty-nine feet to a merestone at the corner of Blandford–Granville–Russell; thence north $78^{\circ} 43'$ west twenty-three thousand eight hundred fifty-three feet to a merestone at the corner of Blandford–Granville–Tolland.

EAST SIDE: Beginning at the corner Granville–Southwick–Westfield merestone, thence south $19^{\circ} 63'$ east three thousand fifty-three feet to a merestone; thence south $4^{\circ} 20'$ east thirty-seven hundred twelve feet to a merestone; thence south $14^{\circ} 23'$ west thirty-six hundred thirty-five feet to a merestone; thence south $24^{\circ} 32'$ west twenty-one hundred feet to a merestone; thence south $14^{\circ} 22'$ east twenty-six hundred thirteen feet; thence south $24^{\circ} 23'$ east fifteen hundred ninety-eight feet to a merestone; thence south $1^{\circ} 41'$ west seventy-seven hundred forty-six feet to a merestone at the corner of Granby–Granville–Southwick.

Political Divisions

The Town of Granville is now embraced in the following political divisions:
First Massachusetts Congressional District;

Eighth Councillor District;
 Berkshire-Hampshire-Hampden Senatorial District;
 Second Hampden Representative District.

Marriages of Granville residents appearing in the records of the church in East Hartland, Connecticut

- Nov. 29, 1776, Phinehas Williams and Anna Bartlett, both of Granville.
 Oct. 13, 1779, Timothy Spelman of Granville and Hannah Hays of Hartland.
 Nov. 10, 1779, Reuben Smith and Ruth Willcox, both of Granville.
 Nov. 18, 1779, Samuel Church of Granville and Phebe Mack (?) of West Springfield.
 Nov. 25, 1779, Daniel Scovil of Granville and Elizabeth Granger of Sandisfield.
 Feb. 3, 1780, Peter Gibbons, Jr., of Granville and Hannah Couch of Hartland.
 Oct. 12, 1780, Joseph Woolf of and Gibbons of Granville.
 Nov. 11, 1792, Jesse Cornwall (Cornwell?) of Granville and Phebe Hall of Hartland.
 Feb. 21, 1793, Jeames Barlow and Rhoda Pratt, both of Granville.
 Mar. 31, 1793, Medad Canfield of Granville and Hepzibah Andrews, Jr., of Hartland.
 Dec. 31, 1793, Ozias Robertson of Granville and Lydia Bill of Hartland.
 Sept. 4, 1794, Isaac Roberts and Abigail Fox, both of Granville.
 May 14, 1796, Rev. Timothy Mather Cooley and Content Chapman, both of Granville.
 Sept. 29, 1796, Daniel Clark Judd of Williamstown, and Deby Hatch of Granville.
 July 21, 1797, Hector Hamilton and Elizabeth Clark, both of Granville.
 *Jan. 16, 1798, Marvin Gates of Genessee, N.Y., and Rachel Coe, of Granville.
 Aug. 9, 1798, Francis Pebils and Marjery Baldwin, both of Granville.
 Dec. 25, 1798, Newton Hayes and Sally Wilcox, both of Granville.
 June 4, 1800, Joseph Reynolds of Horse Neck, N.Y. and Amy Robinson of Granville.
 Jan. 12, 1801, Elias Hunt of Granville and Abigail Goodhue of Granby.
 Aug. 31, 1801, Harvey Hungerford and Olive Martindale, both of Granville.
 Nov. 24, 1801, Asa Day of Granby and Wealthy Kelly of Granville.
 Feb. 4, 1802, Pliny Jones of New York and Olive Goffe of Granville.
 Feb. 25, 1802, Gordon Mack of Hartland and Owen of Granville.

* Marriage intentions filed in Granville records.

- June 7, 1802, Abner Warner and Bethia Culver, both of Granville.
 June 6, 1803, Rufus Hunt and Eunice Barnes, both of Granville.
 July 16, 1803, Otis Dickinson and Malinda Bancroft, both of Granville.
 May 20, 1805, Ephraim Trumbull of Granville and Nancy Daniels of Hartland.
 Sept. 22, 1805, Jabin Clark of Hartland and Olive Buttolf of Granville.
 Feb. 12, 1807, William Marvin of Granville and Vashti Clark of Hartland.
 May 14, 1808, Gideon Sikes of Suffield and Mercy Leonard of Granville.
 June 6, 1808, Ransom Giles of Blandford and Jane Pebbles of Granville.
 Dec. 30, 1810, Ephraim Doolittle of Granville and Statira Cressy of Hartland.
 **Mar. 13, 1819, Joseph Coe of Granville and Lydia Brace of Hartland.
 *Dec. 30, 1819, Nathaniel Clark of Hartland and Rhoda Barlow of Granville.
 *Jan. 29, 1824, Christopher Miner of Stonington and Fanny Steward of Granville.
 *Mar. 15, 1829, George Shepard of Hartford and Lucy Babcock of Granville.
 Oct. 11, 1830, William Tew of Tolland and Sally Stewart of Granville.

Marriages of Granville residents appearing in the records of the church in West Hartland, Connecticut

- Jan. 8, 1784, Jonathan Allen of Hartland and Lois Roberts of Granville.
 May 25, 1785, Daniel DeWolf and Polly Fowler, both of Granville.
 Feb. 23, 1786, Israel Williams of Hartland and Catherine Coe of Granville.
 Sept. 24, 1786, David Robinson of Granville and Caty Coe of Hartland.
 Feb. 28, 1788, David Williams of Granville and Eunice Goss of Barkhamsted.
 Feb. 21, 1791, Baruch Cooley of Granville and Hannah Lee of Chatham.
 Apr. 29, 1794, Thaddeus Munson of Granville and Sarah Mack of Hartland.
 Mar. 20, 1795, Thomas Ballard of Freehold, N.Y. and Caty Provence of Granville.
 July 5, 1795, David Lane and Betsey Ballard, both of Granville.
 Nov. 5, 1795, Daniel Owen of Loudon and Rachel Stow of Granville.
 Nov. 16, 1795, Thomas Fox and Thankful Hatch, both of Granville.
 Nov. 7, 1798, Joseph Sheldon of Granville and Caty Olcott of Hartland.

* Marriage intentions filed in Granville records.

** Marriage recorded in Granville.

- Sept. 8, 1802, Asa Chamberlain of Durham and Mehitable Simmons of Granville.
- May 17, 1803, Alby Cornwall (Cornwell?) and Catherine Pendleton, both of Granville.
- June 26, 1804, Calvin Coe of Granville and Anna Coe of Hartland.
- July 8, 1804, Alexander Lloyd of Blandford and Clarinda Gridley of Granville.
- *Oct. 17, 1804, Giles Rose of Granville and Hannah Atkins of Hartland.
- *Oct. 2, 1805, George Gillett of Granville and Huldah Ensign of Hartland.
- Apr. 9, 1807, Elihu M. Beach of Hartland and Ruth Sheldon of Granville.
- *Sept. 27, 1807, Timothy Miller of Granville and Sally Baldwin of Hartland.
- Nov. 12, 1807, Dan Frost of Granville and Parmela Robinson of Hartland.
- *Dec. 31, 1807, Isacher Graves of Granville and Ruth Blakesley of Hartland.
- *May 4, 1809, Gideon Hull of Granville and Currency Osborn of Hartland.
- Nov. 14, 1809, Samuel Gains of Granville and Esther Blakesley of Hartland.
- *Mar. 8, 1810, John Rogers of Granville and Diademia Beach of Hartland.
- Nov. 5, 1811, Ebenezer Gains of Granville and Anna Blakesley of Hartland.
- Apr. 30, 1820, Silas Collins of Hartland and Sally Cornwell of Granville.

Marriages of Granville residents appearing in the records of the church in Durham, Connecticut

- Nov. 8, 1758, Noah Robinson of Granville and Hannah Parmalee of Durham.
- Mar. 5, 1759, Ebenezer Baldwin of Granville and Lois Wetmore of Middletown.
- Mar. 25, 1762, Solomon Rose of Granville and Rhoda Moulthrop of Durham.
- Dec. 7, 1762, John Hamilton of Granville and Rebecca Canfield of Durham.
- May 11, 1763, Aaron Curtis of Granville and Hannah Griswold of Durham.
- May 12, 1763, Benjamin Barns of Granville and Mary Coe of Durham.
- Apr. 9, 1765, Titus Fowler of Granville and Hannah Burrit of Durham.
- Nov. 6, 1768, Enoch Coe of Granville and Katharine Camp of Durham.

* Marriage intentions filed in Granville records.

Selectmen

1754	Phineas Pratt Samuel Bancroft David Rose	1767	Phineas Pratt Timothy Robinson Luke Hitchcock
1755	Phineas Pratt Samuel Bancroft John Spelman	1768	Justus Rose Luke Hitchcock Phineas Pratt Timothy Robinson David Fowler
1756	Ephraim Munson John Spelman Samuel Church	1769	Phineas Pratt Stephen Hickcox Benjamin Old
1757	Phineas Pratt Samuel Bancroft John Spelman	1770-1772	Nathan Barlow Luke Hitchcock Timothy Robinson
1758	John Spelman Phineas Pratt Luke Hitchcock	1773-1776	Samuel Bancroft Timothy Robinson Luke Hitchcock
1759	Phineas Pratt John Spelman Nathaniel Hubbard Ephraim Munson Luke Hitchcock	1777	William Cooley Timothy Robinson Titus Fowler Nathan Barlow Samuel Coe
1760	Phineas Pratt Luke Hitchcock John Spelman	1778	William Cooley Timothy Robinson Titus Fowler Joel Bancroft Samuel Thrall
1761	Phineas Pratt Luke Hitchcock Ephraim Munson	1779	Oliver Phelps William Cooley Timothy Robinson Titus Fowler Dan Robinson
1762	Eliakim Stow Luke Hitchcock Timothy Robinson	1780	Oliver Phelps Timothy Robinson Titus Fowler William Cooley Josiah Harvey
1763	John Rose Luke Hitchcock Timothy Robinson	1781	Oliver Phelps Richard Dickinson Timothy Robinson Titus Fowler Josiah Harvey
1764	John Rose Luke Hitchcock Phineas Pratt Ephraim Munson		
1765	Phineas Pratt Timothy Robinson Luke Hitchcock		
1766	Phineas Pratt David Parsons Joseph Miller		

1782	Oliver Phelps Richard Dickinson Timothy Robinson Titus Fowler David Rogers		Titus Fowler Thomas Hamilton
1783	Richard Dickinson William Cooley Jacob Bates Timothy Robinson Titus Fowler	1793	Clark Cooley Timothy Robinson Josiah Harvey Titus Fowler Ezra Marvin
1784	Ezra Marvin Titus Fowler Timothy Robinson Jacob Bates Oliver Phelps	1794	(no record)
1785	Oliver Phelps Timothy Robinson Titus Fowler Clark Cooley Jacob Bates	1795	Josiah Harvey Ezra Marvin Abraham Granger Timothy Robinson Clark Cooley
1786	Oliver Phelps Timothy Robinson Thomas Hamilton Clark Cooley Jacob Bates	1796	Josiah Harvey Enoch Bancroft Abraham Granger David Curtis Stephen Spelman
1787	Ezra Marvin Timothy Robinson Thomas Hamilton Oliver Phelps Jacob Bates	1797	Ezra Marvin Jacob Bates Abraham Granger Josiah Harvey Titus Fowler
1788-1790	Clark Cooley Josiah Harvey James Hamilton Lemuel Bancroft Amos Baldwin	1798	Ezra Marvin David Robinson Titus Fowler Jacob Bates William Cooley
1791	Clark Cooley Timothy Robinson Josiah Harvey Titus Fowler Ezra Marvin	1799	Ezra Marvin Jacob Bates Titus Fowler William Cooley David Curtis
1792	Clark Cooley Timothy Robinson Josiah Harvey	1800	Israel Parsons David Robinson Thomas Hamilton Asa Seymour Seth Parsons
		1801	Israel Parsons David Robinson Thomas Hamilton Seth Parsons Percy Marshall, Jr.

1802	Asa Seymour David Curtiss Abraham Granger Timothy Rose John Phelps	1814	James Barlow Hezekiah Robinson Perry Babcock
1803	Asa Seymour Jacob Bates Titus Fowler Timothy Rose Abraham Granger	1815	James Barlow Perry Babcock Joel Root Lyman Baldwin Stephen Spelman
1804	Israel Parsons David Curtiss Titus Fowler John Phelps James Coe	1816	Lyman Baldwin Joel Root Isaac Miller James Cooley John Robinson
1805	Israel Parsons John Phelps Abraham Granger	1817	Israel Parsons Joel Root John Selden Lyman Baldwin Dudley Humphrey
1806	Ezra Marvin Jacob Bates Abraham Granger	1818	Patrick Boies Joel Root Hezekiah Robinson Edmund Barlow, Jr. Nathan Parsons
1807	Israel Parsons Joel Robinson Abraham Granger	1819	John Selden Hezekiah Robinson James Barlow
1808	Amos Root Joel Robinson Abraham Granger	1820	Francis Stebbins James Barlow Hezekiah Robinson
1809	Israel Parsons John Phelps William Twining, 2nd	1821	James Barlow Francis Stebbins Jonathan B. Bancroft
1810	Asa Seymour David Curtiss William Twining, 2nd James Coe Joel Parsons	1822	Francis Stebbins Bela Bancroft Denison Parsons
1811	Asa Seymour Joel Parsons James Barlow	1823	James Barlow Denison Parsons William Marvin
1812	Asa Seymour Hezekiah Robinson Lyman Baldwin	1824	Denison Parsons William Marvin Benjamin Barnes, Sr.
1813	Israel Parsons Hezekiah Robinson Elihu Stow	1825	Joel Root Denison Parsons Stephen Spelman

1826	Hezekiah Robinson Joel Root Nathan Parsons	1840	Arden Seymour William Treat John W. Barnes
1827	Stephen Spelman Hezekiah Robinson James Barlow	1841	Alpheus Bancroft Olsen C. Baldwin James Root
1828	Hezekiah Robinson James Barlow Nathan Parsons	1842	Olsen C. Baldwin Elisha F. Miner Levi Brown
1829	James Cooley Noah Cooley Jonathan B. Bancroft	1843	Levi Brown Elisha F. Miner Justus Rose, Jr.
1830	Noah Cooley Elijah Seymour Vincent Holcomb	1844	Elisha F. Miner Alpheus Bancroft William Hall
1831	James Barlow Noah Cooley James Root	1845	Henry Clark William W. Bacon Ezra C. Baldwin
1832	Elijah Seymour Seth Coe Levi Parsons	1846	William W. Bacon Dwight M. Wheeler Martin K. Bates
1833	Samuel Root Vincent Holcomb Samuel B. Barlow	1847	Samuel Spelman Dwight M. Wheeler Elisha Brown
1834	John W. Barnes Alpheus Bancroft Ezra C. Baldwin	1848	Dwight M. Wheeler Elisha Brown Joseph F. Miner
1835	Samuel Root John W. Barnes Alpheus Bancroft	1849	James H. Gibbons Joseph F. Miner William Wells Jacob S. Root Olsen C. Baldwin
1836	Ezra C. Baldwin Volney Stow Olsen C. Baldwin	1850	Joseph F. Miner William W. Bacon Dwight M. Wheeler
1837	Alpheus Bancroft John W. Barnes Carlos Gibbons	1851	Elisha Brown William W. Bacon Joseph F. Miner
1838	George W. Shepard Volney Stow Isaac R. Miller	1852	Elisha F. Miner Hubert V. C. Holcomb Elizur Merriam
1839	Samuel Root Jesse Rose Levi Brown	1853	Henry Clark Olsen C. Baldwin Elizur Merriam

1854	James W. Spelman Rufus H. Barlow Olsen C. Baldwin	1868	Edwin H. Seymour James W. Johnson Nelson Godard
1855	Rufus H. Barlow James W. Spelman Salem P. Rose	1869	Edwin H. Seymour James O. Rose James W. Johnson
1856	Joseph F. Miner Henry Clark Dwight M. Wheeler	1870	Edwin H. Seymour S. O. Brooker Francis Clark
1857	James H. Andrews Elijah C. Spelman Joseph F. Miner	1871	Rufus Smith James H. Seymour William C. Clark
1858	Lester O. Treat James H. Andrews O. Z. Hugins	1872	Rufus Smith William C. Clark Eleazer L. Brown
1859	O. Z. Hugins James H. Andrews James P. Cooley	1873	William C. Clark Edwin H. Seymour James W. Johnson
1860	Dwight M. Wheeler O. Z. Hugins James H. Andrews	1874	Orville Carpenter William C. Clark George W. Terret
1861	Edmund Barlow Dwight M. Wheeler Edward Holcomb	1875	Orville Carpenter Miles J. Rose Rufus Smith
1862	John D. Ripley William Wells James W. Spelman Wesley L. Boies	1876	Orville Carpenter Miles J. Rose Lyman B. Marks
1863	James W. Spelman Rufus H. Barlow Daniel H. Drake	1877-1878	Miles J. Rose Eleazer L. Brown William E. Barnes
1864	Dwight M. Wheeler Franklin Robinson David H. Drake	1879-1880	William E. Barnes Eleazer L. Brown John C. Carpenter
1865	Rufus H. Barlow Silas Noble James W. Spelman	1881	John C. Carpenter Milo B. Miller William E. Barnes
1866	Lyman B. Marks David H. Drake William W. Bacon	1882	John C. Carpenter James H. Seymour Michael C. Pender
1867	James W. Spelman Edwin H. Seymour James H. Andrews	1883	Michael C. Pender John C. Carpenter Sidney A. Clark

1884-1885	John C. Carpenter Michael C. Pender Marshall V. Stow	1911-1917	Joseph Welch Michael E. Arnold Roswell O. Rowley
1886-1888	John C. Carpenter Michael C. Pender Edward F. Roberts	1918-1919	Roswell O. Rowley Michael E. Arnold Nelson M. Frisbie
1889-1890	Silas B. Root Edward F. Roberts William E. Barnes	1920	Roswell O. Rowley Peter Hendrickson Nelson M. Frisbie
1891	Edwin H. Seymour William E. Barnes William H. Spelman	1921	Roswell O. Rowley Peter Hendrickson Porter T. Frisbie
1892	Edwin H. Seymour John C. Carpenter Charles D. Treat	1922	Joseph Welch Peter Hendrickson Harry A. Root
1893-1894	Edwin H. Seymour William E. Barnes Miles J. Rose	1923	Joseph Welch Harry A. Root David F. Kenney
1895	William E. Barnes Cyrus W. Ives Edwin H. Seymour	1924-1928	Harry A. Root Porter T. Frisbie David F. Kenney
1896	Cyrus W. Ives Edwin H. Seymour Eugene P. Sullivan	1929-1931	Edward A. Jensen David F. Kenney Porter T. Frisbie
1897-1898	Edwin H. Seymour Eugene P. Sullivan Joseph Welch	1932-1933	David F. Kenney Porter T. Frisbie Charles E. Barnes
1899	Edwin H. Seymour Joseph Welch Clinton L. Stowe	1934-1935	Porter T. Frisbie Charles E. Barnes Joseph L. Dickinson
1900	Joseph Welch Eugene P. Sullivan Clinton L. Stowe	1936	Steven M. Roberts Edward A. Jensen Charles E. Barnes
1901	Joseph Welch Lawrence F. Henry William S. Pomeroy	1937	Steven M. Roberts Edward A. Jensen David F. Kenney
1902	Joseph Welch Lawrence F. Henry Eugene P. Sullivan	1938	Edward A. Jensen Steven M. Roberts Pearl P. Phelon
1903-1910	Joseph Welch Eugene P. Sullivan Roswell O. Rowley	1939-1940	Steven M. Roberts David F. Kenney Joseph Collier

1941-1943	Nels H. Olsen	George E. Woodger
	Buell S. Dickinson	1950 Stephen M. Roberts
	Walter A. Phelon	Nels H. Olsen
1944-1946	Nels H. Olsen	George E. Woodger
	Cyrus H. Tripp	1951 Roland G. Oversen
	Walter A. Phelon	Nels H. Olsen
1947	Nels H. Olsen	George E. Woodger
	Stephen M. Roberts	1952 Roland G. Oversen
	Walter A. Phelon	Henry Kenney
1948	George E. Jones	George E. Woodger
	Buell S. Dickinson	1953 Henry Kenney
	Stephen M. Roberts	Roland G. Oversen
1949	Stephen M. Roberts	Buell S. Dickinson
	Nels H. Olsen	

Town Clerks

1754	Jonathan Church	1822	Patrick Boies
	<i>(elected but refused to serve)</i>	1823	James Cooley
1754-1756	Joseph Clark	1824	Vincent Holcomb
1757-1776	Timothy Robinson	1825	James Cooley
1776-1777	Joel Bancroft	1826	Vincent Holcomb
1778-1786	Oliver Phelps	1827	James Cooley
1787-1796	David Robinson	1828	Patrick Boies
1797-1798	John Phelps	1829	Elijah Seymour
1799-1800	Israel Parsons	1830	Patrick Boies
1801-1802	John Phelps	1831	Samuel B. Barlow
1803	Israel Parsons	1832	Levi S. Parsons
1804-1806	John Phelps	1833	Samuel B. Barlow
1807-1808	Thaddeus Squire	1834	Luman S. Coe
1809-1810	John Phelps	1835	Elijah Seymour
1811	James Cooley	1836	Aaron L. Curtiss
1812	John Phelps	1837	Charles F. Bates
1813	James Cooley	1838	Aaron L. Curtiss
1814	Joel Parsons	1839	Charles F. Bates
1815	James Cooley	1840	Aaron L. Curtiss
1816	Patrick Boies	1841	Charles F. Bates
1817	James Cooley	1842	William C. Dunham
1818	Patrick Boies	1843	Charles F. Bates
1819	Vincent Holcomb	1844	Olsen C. Baldwin
1819	James Cooley	1845	Charles F. Bates
1820	Patrick Boies	1846	Vincent Holcomb
1821	James Cooley	1847	Charles F. Bates
		1848	Vincent Holcomb

1849	Eleazer L. Brown	1867-1870	J. Murray Gibbons
1850	Vincent Holcomb	1871-1874	Ralph S. Brown
1851	James Cooley (<i>died in office</i>)	1875	J. Murray Gibbons
1851	Ralph S. Brown	1876-1877	Ralph S. Brown
1852	Vincent Holcomb	1878-1888	J. Murray Gibbons
1853	Enoch S. Bancroft	1889	Ralph S. Brown
1854	Aaron L. Curtiss	1889-1890	Josiah Swett
1855	Enoch S. Bancroft	1890	J. Murray Gibbons
1856	James M. Goodwin	1891-1900	Elmer E. Smith
1857	Elijah Seymour	1901-1903	Fred N. Gibbons
1858	James M. Goodwin	1904-1906	Elmer E. Smith
1859	Chapin F. Brown	1906-1907	Clinton C. Smith
1860	Wesley L. Boies	1908-1934	Silas B. Root (<i>died in office</i>)
1861	Ralph S. Brown	1934-1951	Harry A. Root
1864	Lyman W. Shepard	1951-1953	Phillip Phelon
1865	Ralph S. Brown	1953-	Charles Hansen
1866	Lyman W. Shepard		

Representatives in the General Court

1775	Samuel Bancroft		James Hamilton
1776	none	1792-1794	Timothy Robinson
1777	Timothy Robinson Nathan Barlo	1795	David Robinson Titus Fowler
1778	none	1796	David Robinson
1779	Oliver Phelps Timothy Robinson		Enoch Bancroft
1780	Oliver Phelps Josiah Harvey	1797	David Robinson Jacob Bates
1781-1783	Timothy Robinson	1798	Enoch Bancroft Jacob Bates
1784	none	1799	John Phelps James Hamilton
1785	Timothy Robinson		David Robinson
1786	Timothy Robinson William Cooley	1800	Israel Parsons
1787	Timothy Robinson Titus Fowler	1801	Israel Parsons Thomas Hamilton
1788	Samuel Thrall John Hamilton	1802	John Phelps Israel Parsons
1789	Timothy Robinson Clark Cooley	1803	Israel Parsons Titus Fowler
1790	Timothy Robinson James Hamilton	1804-1805	John Phelps Israel Parsons
1791	Thomas Burbank	1806	Ezra Marvin

	Abraham Granger	1830	Patrick Boies
1807	Abraham Granger	1831	Jonathan B. Bancroft
	Enoch Bancroft		Samuel Root
1808–1809	Israel Parsons		Patrick Boies
	John Phelps	1832	Elijah Seymour
1810	Israel Parsons		Noah Cooley
	William Twining, 2nd	1833	Samuel Root
1811	John Phelps		Denison Parsons
	Israel Parsons	1834–1835	Alpheus Bancroft
1812	Asa Seymour		John W. Barnes
	John Phelps	1836	Elijah Seymour
1813	David Curtiss		Levi Parsons
	Israel Parsons	1837	Elijah Seymour
1814	David Curtiss	1838	Francis Peebles
	James Barlow	1839	Jonathan B. Bancroft
1815	James Cooley	1840	Aaron L. Curtiss
	David Curtiss	1841	James Root
1816–1817	Perry Babcock	1842	William C. Dunham
	James Cooley	1843	Henry Clark
1818–1819	James Cooley	1844	none
	Reuben Hills	1845	Levi Brown
1820	Francis Stebbins	1846	Joseph F. Miner
	James Barlow	1847	Carlos Gibbons
1821	Joel Root	1848	William Hall
1822	Francis Stebbins	1849	Charles F. Bates
1823	Joel Root	1850	Vincent Holcomb
1824	Francis Stebbins	1851	William W. Bacon
1825	James Cooley	1852	Horace H. Parsons
1826	Hezekiah Robinson	1853	none
1827	Jonathan B. Bancroft	1854	James P. Cooley
1828	Patrick Boies	1855	none
1829	James Cooley	1856	none

From 1857 to 1867 Granville was included in the ninth Representative District and sent the following:

1859 Elisha F. Miner

From 1867 to 1877 Granville was in the seventh Representative District and sent the following:

1867 Ralph S. Brown

1870 Silas Noble

1873 Edwin H. Seymour

1875 John M. Gibbons

From 1877 to 1887 Granville was in the eleventh Representative District and sent the following:

1878 Ethan D. Dickinson

1884 Marshall V. Stowe

From 1887 to 1897 Granville was in the first Representative District and sent the following:

1888 John B. Ripley

1894 Silas B. Root

From 1897 to 1937 Granville has been in the second Hampden Representative District and has sent the following:

1900 Joseph Welch

Indian wars

James Burt, who settled Burt Hill (now in Tolland), was the only resident of Granville, so far as is now known, whose name appears on the muster rolls for service against the Indians. This was about 1748.

Men from Granville who served in the Revolutionary War

Note. Many, if not most, of the men in the following list rendered service in more than one Company, in which case the name of the Company in which the first service appears is the one given here.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Company</i>
Elihu Adkins	Capt. Aaron Coe
Abraham Babcock	Capt. Aaron Coe
Amos Baldwin	Capt. Aaron Coe
Ezra Baldwin	Capt. Aaron Coe
Ezra Baldwin, Jr.	Capt. Benjamin Barnes
Jacob Baldwin	Capt. Benjamin Barnes
Samuel Baldwin	Capt. Aaron Coe
Gideon Ball	Capt. Caleb Keep
Lebbeus Ball	Capt. in Col. William Shepard's Regt.
Joel Bancroft	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
John Bancroft	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Lemuel Bancroft	Capt. Aaron Coe
Samuel Bancroft	Capt. William Cooley
Stephen Bancroft	Continental Army
Simeon Barker	Capt. Elnathan Haskell
Abner Barlow	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Ebenezer Barlow	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Edmund Barlow	Capt. William Cooley
Benjamin Barns	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Ebenezer Barns	Capt. Sol. Brown
Jeremiah Barns	Capt. Benjamin Barnes
Philip Barret	Continental Army

<i>Name</i>	<i>Company</i>
John Bartlett	Capt. Caleb Keep
David Bates	Capt. Aaron Coe
Jacob Bates	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Linus Bates	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Nathaniel Bates	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Albert Black	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Selden Borden	Capt. Elnathan Haskell
William Broaderick	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Abiel Brown	Capt. William Cooley
Daniel Brown	Capt. Nathan Rowle (Rowley?)
Richard Brown	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
James Bull	Capt. Aaron Coe
James Burt	Capt. Aaron Coe
Darius Butler	Capt. Ephraim Fitch
Israel Canfield	Capt. William Cooley
Simeon Cemp (probably Kemp)	Continental Army
Isaac Chace	Capt. Aaron Coe
Amos Clark	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Josiah Clark	Capt. Aaron Coe
Samuel Clark	Capt. Aaron Coe
John Clemmons	Capt. Aaron Coe
Henry Cockman	Capt. John Fuller
Aaron Coe	Capt. in Col. John Moseley's Regt.
David Coe	Capt. William Cannon
Enoch Coe	Capt. Reuben Munn
Israel Coe	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Ithamar Coe	Capt. William Cooley
James Coe	Capt. William Cooley
Joseph Coe	Capt. William Cooley
Seth Coe	Capt. John Carpenter
Daniel Cooley	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
John Cooley	Capt. William Cooley
William Cooley	Capt. in Col. John Moseley's Regt
John Cornwell	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Jonathan Cornwell	Capt. William Cooley
Ozias Cornwell	Capt. Benjamin Barnes
William Cornwell	Capt. Aaron Coe
Aaron Curtiss	Capt. William Cooley
David Curtiss	Capt. William Cooley
Ebenezer Curtiss	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Richard Dickinson	Capt. William Cooley
Isaac Dowd	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Joseph Dyer	Capt. Lebbeus Ball

<i>Name</i>	<i>Company</i>
Elijah Edwards	Capt. Isaac Colton
Stephen Eldredge	Continental Army
..... Fletus	Capt. Aaron Coe
James Forbes	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Jonathan Forbes	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Nathan Forbes	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Fenner Foster	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Hackaliah Foster	Capt. Aaron Coe
James Foster	Capt. William Cooley
Erastus Foter	Continental Army
Titus Fowler	Capt. William Cooley
Jabesh Fox	Capt. Elnathan Haskell
Thomas Fox	Capt. Turner
Bildad Gibbons	Capt. Aaron Coe
Peter Gibbons	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Samuel Gillet	Capt. William Cooley
Thomas Gillet	Capt. William Cooley
Ephraim Gleason	Capt. William Cooley
John Gleason	Capt. William Cooley
Daniel Gleason	Lieut. John Hamilton
David Goff	Capt. Isaac Colton
Jonathan Goff	Capt. John Hamilton
William Gold	Capt. William Cooley
Ebenezer B. Gould	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Thomas Gould	Capt. John Walton
William Gould	Continental Army
Adar Granger	Continental Army
Asher Granger	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Eldad Granger	Capt. Aaron Coe
Lyba Granger	Capt. Job Alvord
Sebe Granger	Capt. John Hamilton
Seth Granger	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Ezra Graves	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Roswell Graves	Capt. William Cooley
Jeremiah Griswold	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Ezekiel Hale	Capt. Aaron Coe
Samuel Hall	Capt. William Cooley
Elijah Halley (Hawley?)	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
James Hamilton	Capt. William Cooley
John Hamilton	Capt. in Col. Timothy Robinson's Regt.
Josiah Harvey	Surgeon in Col. John Fellows' Regt.
John Haskell	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Simeon Haskell	Capt. Caleb Keep

<i>Name</i>	<i>Company</i>
Job Hathaway	Capt. Caleb Keep
Lemuel Haynes	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Elihu Hecox	Capt. Caleb Keep
Rufus Hekox	Capt. William Cooley
Levi Hickox	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Reuben Hickox	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Charles Hitchcock	Capt. Aaron Coe
Luke Hitchcock	Capt. William Cooley
Mirick Hitchcock	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Nathaniel Holcomb	Capt. William Cooley
Ebenezer M. Holden	Continental Army
Mitchell Holden	Capt. William Cooley
Darius Holdin	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Elijah Holleway	Capt. Stanton
Elijah Holley	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
William Hoten	Col. Armand's Regt.
Amasa How	Capt. Elnathan Haskell
Ephraim How	Capt. William Cooley
Enos Howe	Capt. William Cooley
John Howe	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
David Hubbard	Capt. Caleb Keep
Ebenezer Hubbard	Capt. William Cooley
George Hubbard	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Hezekiah Hubbard	Capt. John Hamilton
Isaac Hubbard	Capt. John Hamilton
John Hubbard	Capt. Isaac Colton
Jonas Hubbard	Capt. John Hamilton
Titus Hubbard	Capt. Whiting
John Hughs	Capt. Caleb Keep
Fleet Hull	Capt. William Moore
Jared Ingraham	Capt. William Cooley
James Janes	Capt. Caleb Keep
Jabez Johnson	Capt. John Morgan
Reuben Marther	Capt. Aaron Coe
William Mason	Capt. Caleb Keep
Eliphaz Miller	Capt. William Cooley
Isaac Miller	Capt. Aaron Coe
Jesse Miller	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Jesse Miller, 2nd	Capt. William Cooley
Joseph Miller	Capt. William Cooley
Smith Miller	Capt. William Cooley
Ebenezer Mitchel	Continental Army
John Moor	Capt. William Cooley

<i>Name</i>	<i>Company</i>
Joseph Moor	Capt. William Cooley
William Moore	Continental Army
Reuben Morey	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Ephraim Munson	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Jesse Munson	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Benjamin Olds	Capt. Reuben Munn
Joseph Parker	Capt. Caleb Keep
David Parsons	Capt. William Cooley
Jonathan Parsons	Capt. William Cooley
Moses Parsons	Capt. Caleb Keep
Nathan Parsons	Capt. William Cooley
Philip Parsons	Capt. Caleb Keep
Seth Parsons	Capt. Aaron Coe
James Peebles	Capt. David Cowden
Jonathan Peebles, Jr.	Capt. David Cowden
Thomas Pelton	Capt. William Cannon
William Peters	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Alderton Pratt	Capt. Nathan Rowle (Rowley?)
Gerard Pratt	Capt. William Cooley
Phineas Pratt	Col. Elisha Painter's Regt.
Stephen Pratt	Capt. Reuben Munn
Edward Pye	Capt. Caleb Keep
William Robins	Capt. William Cooley
Charles Robinson	Capt. Aaron Coe
Dan Robinson	Capt. William Cooley
Dan Robinson, Jr.	Capt. Benjamin Barnes
John Robinson	Capt. Aaron Coe
London Robinson	Capt. Isaac Colton
Timothy Robinson	Col. 3rd Hampshire County Regt.
Seth Roe	Capt. Aaron Coe
Timothy Roe	Capt. William Cooley
Amos Root	Capt. William Cooley
Stephen Root	Continental Army
Abel Rose	Capt. Reuben Munn
Abner Rose	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Amos Rose	Capt. William Cooley
Daniel Rose	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Daniel Rose, Jr.	Capt. Benjamin Barnes
David Rose	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Elijah Rose	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Elisha Rose	Capt. William Cooley
Enoch Rose	Capt. Lebbeus Ball

<i>Name</i>	<i>Company</i>
Gad Rose	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Jonathan Rose	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Jonathan Rose, Jr.	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Justus Rose	Capt. William Cooley
Justus Rose, Jr.	Capt. William Cooley
Lemuel Rose	Capt. Elnathan Haskell
Levi Rose	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Peter Rose	Capt. Solomon Brown
Rufus Rose	Capt. William Cooley
Russell Rose	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Seth Rose	Capt. Aaron Coe
Sharon Rose	Capt. William Cooley
Timothy Rose	Capt. Elnathan Haskell
Roswell Rowley	Capt. William Cooley
George Scutcheon	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Caleb Seaward	Capt. William Cooley
Enos Seaward	Capt. William Cooley
Jedediah Seaward	Capt. William Cooley
John Seaward	Capt. William Cooley
John Sele	Capt. Isaac Pope
Noadiah Seward	Capt. William Cooley
Asa Simonds	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Ebenezer Smith	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Josephus Smith	Capt. Isaac Colton
Aaron Spelman	Capt. William Cooley
Charles Spelman	Capt. William Cooley
David Spelman	Capt. Aaron Coe
Eber Spelman	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
John Spelman	Capt. William Cooley
Levi Spelman	Capt. Samuel Thrall
Oliver Spelman	Capt. Aaron Coe
Reuben Spelman	Capt. Benjamin Barnes
Stephen Spelman	Capt. William Cooley
Timothy Spelman	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
David Squire	Capt. Aaron Coe
Jeremiah Stanton	Capt. Aaron Coe
John Stevens	Capt. Caleb Keep
Alexander Stewart	Capt. Benjamin Phillips
Elijah Stiles	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
John Stiles	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Samuel Stiles	Capt. William Cooley
Benjamin Stow	Capt. Lebbeus Ball

<i>Name</i>	<i>Company</i>
Elihu Stow	Capt. Alden
David Strickland	Capt. William Cooley
John Strickland	Capt. Aaron Coe
Jonathan Strickland	Capt. William Cooley
Joseph Strickland	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Eleazer Strong	Capt. William Cooley
David Sulley	Capt. Aaron Coe
Lewis Sweatman	Capt. Aaron Coe
Joseph Swetland	Capt. William Cooley
George Taylor	Continental Army
Nathaniel Thompson	Capt. Isaac Colton
Samuel Thrall	Quartermaster 3rd Mass. Regt.
Samuel Thrall, Jr.	Capt. William Cannon
David Tibbals	Capt. Benjamin Barnes
John Tibbals	Capt. Aaron Coe
John Tibbals, Jr.	Capt. Aaron Coe
Amasa Tillotson	Capt. William Cooley
Elijah Trial	Capt. Nathan Rowle (Rowley?)
Benjamin Waite	Capt. William Cooley
Benjamin Warters	Capt. William Cooley
Daniel Wheeler	Capt. Caleb Hyde
Samuel Wheeler	Capt. Caleb Hyde
John White	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Charles Williams	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Elijah Williams	Capt. William Cooley
Samuel Williams	Capt. William Cooley
Thomas Williams	Capt. William Cooley
William Williams	Capt. Isaac Colton
Jared Willooks	Capt. Solomon Brown
Eli Woolworth	Capt. Aaron Coe
Israel Wright	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
John Wright	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Stephen Wright	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Thaddeus Wright	Capt. Aaron Coe

The following list of names of soldiers in the Revolutionary War has been compiled from the official publication, Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors in the Revolution, wherein their individual services are set forth in detail. In that record it does not appear from what Town they came or to what Town they are accredited. It is believed that all the men mentioned in this list went from Granville to the war, and it is submitted that most, if not all, of them did so, because they all served in the so-called "Granville companies," those companies commanded by Captains Lebbeus Ball, Aaron Coe, William Cooley, John

Hamilton and Benjamin Barnes. And further, in general, the family names in the list are the names of families at that time living in Granville.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Company</i>
Abiel Abbit (Abbott?)	Capt. William Cooley
Nathaniel Allen	Capt. Aaron Coe
Thomas Arms	Capt. Aaron Coe
Stephen Baldwin	Capt. William Cooley
Jabez Ball	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Enoch Bancroft	Capt. William Cooley
Benjamin Barlow	Capt. William Cooley
Heman Barlow	Capt. William Cooley
John Battles (Buttles?)	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Caleb Birt	Capt. Benjamin Barnes
Samuel Blair	Capt. William Cooley
William Boies	Capt. Aaron Coe
Andrew Brown	Capt. Aaron Coe
Gideon Bush	Capt. Aaron Coe
James Campbel	Capt. Aaron Coe
William Campbel	Capt. Aaron Coe
Samuel Carnahan	Capt. William Cooley
Daniel Clark	Capt. William Cooley
Ezra Covil	Capt. William Cooley
William Cross	Capt. Aaron Coe
Ebenezer Dowd	Capt. Aaron Coe
Elihu Dowd	Capt. William Cooley
John Duglis (Douglas?)	Capt. Aaron Coe
Squire Elmar (perhaps Elmer Squire)	Capt. Aaron Coe
Amos Fenn	Capt. William Cooley
Russell Fitch	Capt. Aaron Coe
Daniel Fuller	Capt. Aaron Coe
Joseph Gears	Capt. Aaron Coe
Israel Gibbs	Capt. William Cooley
Isaac Gilburt	Capt. Aaron Coe
Daniel Gilmore	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Joel Gleason	Capt. William Cooley
Reuben Graves	Capt. William Cooley
Rufus Hall	Capt. William Cooley
Robert Hamilton	Capt. John Hamilton
Samuel Hamilton	Capt. Aaron Coe
Thomas Hamilton	Capt. John Hamilton
Reuben Hecox	Capt. William Cooley
Godfrey Hickcon	Capt. Benjamin Barnes
Levi Hickcon	Capt. Benjamin Barnes

<i>Name</i>	<i>Company</i>
Luke Hickcon	Capt. Benjamin Barnes
Eldad Holcomb	Capt. William Cooley
Josiah Holeday	Capt. Aaron Coe
Samuel R. Hoppin	Capt. William Cooley
John Huleman	Capt. Benjamin Barnes
Person Huntriss	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Benjamin Ives	Capt. William Cooley
Enoch Johnson	Capt. Benjamin Barnes
John Jones	Capt. Aaron Coe
Judah Jones	Capt. William Cooley
John Kanada	Capt. William Cooley
David Kinch	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
David Knox	Capt. William Cooley
William Knox	Capt. William Cooley
Joseph Miller, 3rd	Capt. Aaron Coe
Timothy Miller	Capt. John Hamilton
Cephas Mills	Capt. William Cooley
Moses Mitchell	Capt. Aaron Coe
James MolHolland	Capt. William Cooley
James Moore	Capt. William Cooley
Thomas Moore	Capt. William Cooley
Mark Noble	Capt. John Hamilton
Isaac Penfield	Capt. Aaron Coe
Elnathan Pratt	Capt. Aaron Coe
David Provin	Capt. William Cooley
James Provin	Capt. William Cooley
Abner Raney	Capt. William Cooley
William Roads	Capt. Aaron Coe
Josiah Rockwood	Capt. Aaron Coe
Israel Root	Capt. William Cooley
Daniel Scovil	Capt. Aaron Coe
Westol Scovil	Capt. William Cooley
Jonathan Shepard	Capt. William Cooley
Ph's Shepard	Capt. Benjamin Barnes
David Simons	Capt. William Cooley
Daniel Slade	Capt. Aaron Coe
Eleazer Slocum	Capt. John Hamilton
John Smith	Capt. William Cooley
Timothy Smith	Capt. William Cooley
Amos Spaford	Capt. William Cooley
Asa Staples	Capt. Benjamin Barnes
Samuel Stedman	Capt. Aaron Coe
John Stephenson	Capt. Lebbeus Ball

<i>Name</i>	<i>Company</i>
Spencer Steward	Capt. Aaron Coe
Solomon Stewart	Capt. William Cooley
Daniel Stiles	Capt. Aaron Coe
Job Stiles	Capt. William Cooley
Asa Sweet	Capt. Lebbeus Ball
Ezekiel Swetmon	Capt. Aaron Coe
William Taylor	Capt. Aaron Coe
Ephraim Williams	Capt. William Cooley
Zebulon Williams	Capt. John Hamilton

Men from Granville who served in the 1812 War

The following list of officers is compiled from the Roster in the office of the Adjutant General of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, they having served in the Fourth Division, Fourth Regiment, First Brigade, Massachusetts State troops.

There appears to be no record of the privates who served in this war in the Adjutant General's office in Boston, and such record as there may be in Washington is not kept by towns or counties.

<i>Lieutenant Colonel</i>	Joseph Parsons
James Barlow	Hezekiah Robinson
<i>Paymaster</i>	John F. Smith
James Cooley	<i>Lieutenants</i>
<i>Surgeon</i>	Edmund Babcock
Rufus Harvey	Jonathan B. Bancroft
<i>Adjutant</i>	George Cooley
Daniel Gillet	Loring Lane
<i>Major</i>	Sylvester Tinker
Reuben Hills	<i>Ensigns</i>
<i>Captains</i>	John W. Babcock
Bela Bancroft	James Root
James B. Bates	Samuel Wharfield
Allyn Bidwell	Erastus Woodruff
William Marvin	

In the First Brigade of Cavalry in the same Regiment were:

<i>Captain</i>	<i>Lieutenant</i>
Joel Parsons	Dennison Parsons
<i>Cornet</i>	
Jonathan Hamilton	

Also serving in this war, but in what organization it is not known were:

<i>Captain</i>	<i>Surgeon</i>
Isaac Phelps	David B. Curtis,
	died in army 1813

Privates

Vincent Holcomb

Justus Rose

When Boston was threatened by the British in 1814 and additional troops were needed for the defense of that port, Capt. William Marvin raised a Company of Militia "in Granville and vicinity." This Company was a part of Lieut.-Col. Enos Foot's Regiment and was in service at Boston from September 10, 1814, to November 17, 1814, arriving in Boston soon after the middle of September. Nothing in the record indicates which men came from Granville and which did not, so the names of the entire Company are here inserted, and the ones believed to have been of Granville are marked thus *.

Officers

*Capt. William Marvin

Lieut. Matthew Smith

Ensign Saul Lyman

*Sergt. Solomon Root

Sergt. Samuel Pomeroy

Sergt. Salmon Belding

*Sergt. George W. Granger

Corp. Jeremiah S. Grove

Corp. Simon Stewart

Corp. James H. Birchard

Corp. Charles Slayton

*Musician George Taylor

*Musician Alpheus Bancroft

Musician Morgan Deny

Privates

*Barlow, Heman

*Barnes, Ebenezer

*Bates, Phineas

Beach, Gerial

*Booth, Elisha

Chandler, Samuel

Cheeseman, Abel

Cheeseman, Saul

Clampton, Samuel

*Clark, Ralph C.

*Cook, Russell

Darling, William

Day, Jacob

Dickson, Caleb W.

Durant, Clark

Elsworth, Hezekiah

*Graves, Issacher

*Hall, Elijah

Hoskins, Elijah

*Henry, Samuel

Hitchcock, Ebenezer M.

Meacham, Philip

Moore, Asa

Muffit, Abraham

*Northway, Friend

*Nott, Oliver

Parsons, John

*Pheland, Gad

*Pratt, Silas

*Robinson, Chancy

Rogers, Joshua

Ronney, Sewall

*Rose, Calvin

*Rose, Christopher

Sanderson, Saul

Seagar, Charles L.

Skinner, John

*Slocum, Charles C.

Smith, Abner

*Smith, Anson

*Smith, George

Smith, Jesse

Smith, Russell

*Spelman, Lyman

Stedman, Edward P.

Still, Roger

Stone, Harvy

Taylor, William

*Tillotson, Samuel

Waite, Thomas

Ward, Artemus
West, Lloyd
Witt, William

Wright, Erastus
Wright, William

In Capt. A. G. Phelps' Company in Lieut.-Col. Enos Foot's Regiment:
*Cooley, Festus

In Capt. Quartus Stebbins' Company of Artillery, in Col. W. Edwards' Regiment:

*Cooley, Ariel
*Cooley, Samuel

*Cooley, Titus
*Cooley, William

Among the Non-Commissioned officers of Lieut.-Col. Enos Foot's Regiment was O(hel) Spelman, Quartermaster Sergeant, of Granville.

List of Granville men in the Civil War

George H. Atkins, Co. D, 34th Mass.
William H. Atkins, Co. I, 10th Mass.
Charles E. Baldwin, Co. F, 27th Mass.
George L. Bancroft, Co. E, 46th Mass.
William H. Bancroft, Co. E, 27th Mass.
William H. Beach, Co. F, 27th Mass.
Edward N. Bliss, Co. I, 27th Mass.
Charles C. Brewer, Co. F, 27th Mass.
John W. Brewer, Co. F, 27th Mass.
Leigh R. Brewer, Co. D, 34th Mass.
Edward D. Carpenter, Co. C, 8th Conn.
Henry L. Champlin, Co. E, 46th Mass.
William R. Champlin, Co. B, 2nd Mass. H. Art.
James P. Chapman, Co. G, 34th Mass.
Hiram L. Chase, Co. M, 2nd Mass. H. Art.
George W. Church, Co. G, 34th Mass.
Aaron S. Clark, Co. E, 46th Mass.
Joseph L. Clark, Co. E, 46th Mass.
William C. Clark, Co. E, 46th Mass.
Nathan E. Coe, Co. H, 2nd Mass. H. Art.
George W. Cone, Co. F, 27th Mass.
Andrew J. Cook, Co. I, 3rd Mass. H. Art.

Benjamin F. Cooley, Co. H, 2nd Mass. H. Art.
John C. Cooley, Co. C, 8th Conn.
Milo H. Cooley, Co. F, 27th Mass.
Samuel M. Cooley, Co. C, 8th Conn.
Sherman P. Cooley, Co. F, 27th Mass.
Zadock F. Cooley, Co. C, 8th Conn.
Homer P. Cornwell, Co. F, 27th Mass.
Howard E. Cornwell, Co. F, 27th Mass.
Stiles Couch, Co. B, 31st Mass.
John Cummings, Co. D, 34th Mass.
Oliver C. Dickinson, Co. E, 46th Mass.
Otis S. Dickinson, Co. E, 46th Mass.
Patrick Donovan, Co. F, 31st Mass.
Calvin P. Dustin, Co. I, 15th Mass.
Roland N. Farnham, Co. D, 34th Mass.
Luther Gardner, Co. E, 46th Mass.
Chauncey M. Gowdy, Co. G, 10th Mass.
George T. Green, Co. F, 27th Mass.
Henry N. Green, Co. F, 27th Mass.
George S. Harger, Co. I, 10th Mass.
Sidney E. Hayden, Co. F, 46th Mass.
William D. Hayden, Co. F, 46th Mass.

- Chauncey Hodge, Co. C, 8th Conn.
 Chauncey P. Howe, Co. F, 27th Mass.
 John V. Hull, Co. E, 27th Mass.
 Ira F. Humeson, Co. M, 2nd Mass.
 H. Art.
 Willis Humison, Co. G, 31st Mass.
 George H. Justin, Co. D, 34th Mass.
 James Justin, Co. I, 10th Mass.
 James M. Justin, Co. E, 46th Mass.
 Silas L. Keep, Co. F, 30th Mass.
 Henry Kerwin, Co. F, 31st Mass.
 Justus W. King, Co. F, 27th Mass.
 Stephen W. Knox, Co. F, 27th Mass.
 Frederick Krollman, Co. D, 34th Mass.
 Henry Krollman, Co. A, 2nd Mass.
 H. Art.
 George Lee, Co. B, 31st Mass.
 George G. Lewis, Co. G, 2nd Mass.
 H. Art.
 John Lynch, Co. F, 31st Mass.
 Jerry Lynch, Co. F, 31st Mass.
 William S. Maloney, Co. A, 2nd Mass.
 H. Art.
 Daniel McCarty, Co. F, 31st Mass.
 Charles H. McIntyre, Co. B, 17th Mass.
 John C. Messenger, Co. F, 27th Mass.
 Henry E. Miner, Co. E, 46th Mass.
 Joseph Murphy, Co. C, 3rd Mass. H. Art.
 Isaac S. Nash, Co. D, 34th Mass.
 Winslow B. Nelson, Co. B, 2nd Mass.
 H. Art.
 Chauncey Newton, Co. E, 46th Mass.
 Martin Osborn, Co. F, 27th Mass.
 Elihu N. Peebles, Co. F, 46th Mass.
 Ulysses H. Pierce, Co. E, 46th Mass.
 Amos B. Pomeroy, Co. F, 27th Mass.
 Daniel B. Pomeroy, Co. F, 27th Mass.
 Roderick Pomeroy, Jr., Co. F, 27th Mass.
 Henry Randall, Co. C, 8th Conn.
 Nelson A. Randall, Co. H, 27th Mass.
 Niles C. Randall, Co. E, 46th Mass.
 Alvin C. Rice, Co. C, 8th Conn.
 Elmer W. Rice, Co. F, 27th Mass.
 Robert Rice, Co. C, 8th Conn.
 Henry N. Ripley, Co. F, 46th Mass.
 Charles W. Roberts, Co. F, 27th Mass.
 Joseph W. Roberts, Co. F, 27th Mass.
 Ira L. Root, Co. E, 46th Mass.
 Harvey (or Henry) Rose, Co. C, 2nd Mass. H. Art.
 Lyman L. Rose, Co. E, 46th Mass.
 Myron J. Rose, Co. F, 27th Mass.
 Salem P. Rose, Co. F, 27th Mass.
 Henry F. Rowley, Co. E, 46th Mass.
 John R. Rowley, Co. F, 27th Mass.
 James H. Sanders, Co. D, 34th Mass.
 John D. Searl, Co. E, 27th Mass.
 Buel Seymour, Co. E, 46th Mass.
 James A. Smith, Co. F, 27th Mass.
 William H. Smith, Co. C, 8th Conn.
 James Spelman, Co. C, 8th Conn.
 Marshall V. Stow, Co. E, 46th Mass.
 Charles W. Terrett, Co. F, 27th Mass.
 Francis E. Thompson, Co. B, 10th Conn.
 Albert Treat, Co. E, 46th Mass.
 Benjamin F. Treat, Co. F, 31st Mass.
 Calvin J. Treat, Co. F, 27th Mass.
 Joseph A. Tyler, Co. B, 31st Mass.
 Henry W. Tryon, Co. F, 27th Mass.
 Ephraim Wells, Co. E, 46th Mass.
 Isaac R. Wetherell, Co. B, 24th Mass.
 Samuel P. Winchell, Co. D, 34th Mass.

World War I

The following is a list of those who went from Granville to service in the World War, 1917–1918, together with the names of the organizations in

which they served. In case service was rendered in more than one organization, the name of the one in which service was first rendered is here given.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Service</i>
Wallace W. Banks	Co. A 321st Infantry
Charles E. Barnes	Co. 307 Motor Transportation Corps
Richard J. Barry	Co. A 36th Machine Gun Battalion
Darwin C. Clark	General Service Infantry
Richard G. Dickinson	Adjutant General's Department
Andrew J. Duris	Co. L 2nd Cavalry
Joseph A. Dzuris	2nd Battery Field Artillery Replacement Regt.
Guy I. Gibbons	Sanitary Detachment 316th Infantry
Frank W. Goodness	Salvage Co. Quartermaster's Corps
Albert S. Hansen	33rd Artillery, Coast Artillery Corps
Joseph Guy Hansen	2nd Truck Co. 60th Ammunition Train
Henry A. Hansen	Co. A 42nd Infantry
Walter R. Hansen	Co. A 504th Engineers Battalion
Edward LeCclair	Train Hdqrs. and Military Police 4th Division
Joseph W. LeCcleaire	Supply Co. 77th Field Artillery
Charles H. Lemon	156th Depot Brigade
John MacTurk	Co. C 36th Machine Gun Battalion
Sanky G. Oftedahl	Quartermaster Corps
Robert E. Peebles	Salvage Co. Quartermaster's Corps
John L. Phelon	4th Engineer Training Regiment
Susan A. Phelon	Army Nurse Corps
John Roache	Students Army Training Corps
Walter Schiess	Co. H 328th Infantry
Louis J. Sullivan	Camp Jackson Automatic Replacement Draft
William R. Wackerbarth	Co. H 58th Infantry
Thomas J. Wood	Battery C. 52nd Artillery, Coast Artillery Corps

The preceding list contains only the names of those who lived in Granville when they enlisted in, or were drafted into, the military service, or whose family lived there during the war.

The military service of George Newberry Peck, in the records of the Adjutant General's Office is credited to Granville. Mr. Peck was born in Granby, Connecticut, and has lived there all his life. He never lived in Granville. At the time of the war he was living on the ancestral farm, a part of which lies in the Town of Granville, and his post office was Granville. It seems as though he could not properly be included in the list of men sent to the war from Granville.

It will be noted that the preceding list of men who served in the military forces of the United States in the World War is not identical with the following list of men which appears on the bronze tablet upon the boulder in front of the Town Hall, and it may be of assistance to bear in mind the principles upon

which the two lists have been compiled. In this way it is hoped may be dispelled the confusion which otherwise would be certain to arise.

The following list contains the names of all those whom the committee having charge of preparing that list thought had served in the war and had ever lived in Granville at any time, either before or after the war, without regard to where they lived at the time of enrollment, or how long they had been away from Granville. This is quite a different basis from that used in preparing the above list.

The names on the boulder are as follows:

Wallace W. Banks
Charles E. Barnes
Clarence Barnes
Richard J. Barry
Ralph S. Brown
Richard G. Dickinson
Andrew J. Dzuris
Joseph A. Dzuris
Guy I. Gibbons
Frank W. Goodness
Albert S. Hansen
Guy J. Hansen
Henry A. Hansen
Walter R. Hansen
Fred P. Kenney
Edward B. LeClair

Joseph W. LeClair
Charles H. Lemon
Napoleon E. Marcotte
William P. Marcotte
Robert E. Peebles
John L. Phelon
Susan A. Phelon
Charles W. Roberts
Stephen M. Roberts
John F. Sullivan
Louis J. Sullivan
Robert H. Tripp
Earl J. Tryon
Lloyd H. Tryon
William R. Wackerbarth

World War II

The men whose names are in the following list went from Granville and served in World War II.

Banks, Duane J.
Banks, Vaughn W.
Barnes, William D.
Beckwith, Harold M.
Beckwith, Raymond E.
Blakesley, Donald
Bradford, Joseph
*Brooks, Randolph S.
Brueno, Louis R.
Brueno, William F.
Cillier, Arthur R.
Collier, John H.
Collier, Joseph

Collier, Paul D.
Davin, Benjamin G.
Dickinson, Glenn J.
Duris, Andrew P.
Duris, Roland E.
Ellis, Howard
French, Kenneth A.
*Frisbie, Donald P.
Gibbons, John M.
Hansen, Frederick C.
Harrington, Otis
Hodge, Charles H.
Holcomb, Carl B.

* Killed in action.

Holcomb, Henry G.	Pendrak, Theodore
Holcomb, Henry W.	Petersen, Trygve S.
Hooper, Herbert	Phelon, Philip S.
Huntington, Walter	Quagliaroli, Fred S.
Jensen, Christian J.	Quagliaroli, Herbert
Jensen, Edward A., Jr.	Richards, Edward
Jensen, Ernest F.	Richards, Raymond W.
Jones, George E., Jr.	Roberts, Edward C.
Jones, William A.	Roberts, Irving B.
Kallio, Onnie	Roberts, Kingsley
Kane, Morten H.	Rodimon, Frederick W., 2nd
Kenney, Bernard E.	Rodimon, William G.
Kenney, Edward F.	Sheets, Arthur C.
Laptew, Alex	Sierastki, Francis
Laptew, Michael	Sorrell, Clifford F.
Laptew, Walter	Tripp, Earl H.
LeClair, Donald C.	Tripp, Robert C.
LeClair, Edward J.	Vanotti, William, Jr.
LeClair, Joseph W.	Wackerbarth, Frederick S.
Lees, Ralph J.	York, Cyril L.
Lemon Howard E .	York, Richard C.
Lemon, Walter T.	York, William A.
Matthews, Clarence B.	Zambs, Clayton R.
Olsen, Roy I.	

The following list of physicians who have practiced medicine in Granville is known to be incomplete, and more or less fragmentary, but it is presented in order that such information as it may contain shall not be lost. Where the period of their practice is known, it is stated.

Josiah Harvey, about 1768 to 1807
 Rufus Harvey, about 1791 to 1817
 Aaron Bigelow, to 1803 (died aged 35)
 David B. Curtiss, to 1813
 Jewett, about 1816 moved to Tolland
 Lyman Baldwin, to 1818 (died aged 23)
 Henry Pratt, to 1819 (died aged 26)
 Skinner
 Fenn Robinson
 Elam Stimpson, about 1819
 Josiah Hatch, to 1834
 Vincent Holcomb, about 1818 to 1863
 E. Wright, 1847 to 1849
 H. S. Lucas, to 1849
 E. P. Starkweather, 1850 to 1857

Lewis Harvey
 C. C. Holcomb, 1853 to 1854
 H. V. C. Holcomb, 1853 to 1854
 J. F. Erving, about 1850 to 1864
 Joel W. Johnson, 1860 to 1875
 Calvin B. King, 1865
 Dean
 C. W. Bowen, 1875 to 1880
 Josiah Swett, Jr., 1880
 C. W. Bartlett, 1891 to 1897
 Herbert G. Rockwell, 1897 to 1902
 Marion B. Rockwell, 1901 to 1902
 Mountain, 1899 to 1900
 Sheldon S. S. Campbell, 1902 to 1906
 John W. Fairing, 1906 to 1909
 Horace Moran, 1909 to 1912
 Clifford A. White, 1912 to 1935
 Waldo Edelman, 1938 to 1939
 Ray D. Hester, 1939 to 1942
 Harold T. Beattie, 1942 to 1948

A list, which is thought to be complete, of all the regularly settled ministers, assistants and temporary supplies, who have served the First Church of Christ in Granville, giving dates where such are known.

Moses Tuttle, January 1746/7 to 1753/4
 Jedediah Smith, December 2, 1756 to April 16, 1776
 Barnabus Lathrop, 1787 to 1788
 *William Bradford
 *Sylvester Sage
 *Silas Churchill
 Timothy Mather Cooley, June 1, 1795 to December 14, 1859
 **Caleb Page, April 1, 1854 to April 1, 1856
 **Ogden Hall, April 1, 1856 to April 1, 1858
 **Noah Wells, April 1, 1858 to April 7, 1860
 Alexander D. Stowell, December 1, 1860 to April 6, 1863
 Asa Mann, May 25, 1863 to September 30, 1863
 R. M. Dole, October 1, 1863 to January 21, 1864
 Archibald Geike, January 21, 1864 to March 27, 1870
 Nelson Scott, October 2, 1870 to January 15, 1879
 J. C. M. Johnston, , 1879 to , 1880
 *Henry W. McGiffert, , 1880 to November 7, 1880
 Egbert N. Monroe, March 7, 1881 to March 14, 1882

* Temporary supply.

** Assistant pastors.

Edward H. Knight, October 1, 1882 to July 1, 1883
 Edward A. Hazeltine, November , 1883 to October , 1884
 Nathaniel S. Moore, July 2, 1885 to October , 1886
 Ewing O. Tade, July , 1888 to September 28, 1890
 Arthur L. Golder, 1890 to 1891
 Ernest W. Sturtevant, 1891 to May 14, 1893
 George A. Beckwith, December 31, 1893 to June 21, 1896
 Wallace H. Stearns, April , 1897 to December 31, 1900
 David Y. Moor, April , 1901 to July 14, 1901
 David L. Kebbe, July 20, 1901 to January 20, 1904
 Lucien C. Graves, July , 1904 to July 29, 1913
 Walter C. Prewett, October , 1913 to February 27, 1916
 George Richards, June 1, 1917 to September 1, 1924
 G. W. Stevenson, 1924 to 1927
 W. G. Berkeley, 1928 to 1930
 Walter C. Prewett, May 17, 1931 to May 10, 1936
 *Robert H. Dalton, June 21, 1936 to December , 1936

The following list is thought to contain the names of all the ministers of the Second Church of Christ in Granville, together with their period of service.

Lemuel Haynes	1781-1786	Henry Stone	1889-1892
Aaron J. Booge	1786-1793	Thomas Robie	1892-1895
William Bradford	1794	Samuel B. Andrews	1896-1900
Joel Baker	1797-1833	George A. Curtis	1900-1901
Seth Chapin	1833-1835	Charles S. Bates	1902-1903
Henry Eddy	1836-1839	Henry A. Coolidge	1903-1907
Calvin Foot	1841-1847	Edward C. Sargent	1907-1910
Henry B. Smith	1847-1851	Lorenzo W. Muttart	1910-1913
Francis Norwood	1852-1855	Alfred Ham	1914-1915
S. W. Edson	1855-1856	Edwin R. Phillips	1915-1916
Francis Holmes	1857-1860	George Damon	1916-1918
Austin Gardner	1860-1867	Charles F. Frederick	1920
Wakefield Gale	1867-1870	Ernest Maylott	1921-1922
Timothy Lyman	1870-1871	Stanley Rulon	1923-1924
H. H. Olds	1872-1874	George S. Stevenson	1924-1927
Augustus Alvord	1874-1879	Harry B. Miner	1928
J. C. M. Johnson	1879-1880	Richard A. Frye	1929
Lyman Warner	1881-1885	Howard E. Short	1930-1933
T. O. Rice	1885-1888	George B. Owen	1934-1935

The following list is believed to contain the names of all the regularly settled ministers who have served the Baptist church, together with their periods of service.

* Temporary supply.

Christopher Miner	1798-1808	Henry M. Heywood	1882-1884
Jonathan Sheldon	1807	Robert Bennett	1884-1885
Silas Root	1817-1835	A. S. Brown	1888-1889
Richard Griffing	1835-1836	George N. Preston	1890-1896
John Higby	1837-1841	B. F. Hurlburt	1896-1901
Richard Griffin	1841-1842	C. E. Tedford	1901-1903
Luther Stone	1843	Harry E. Safford	1904-1906
George D. Felton	1844-1865	A. R. McDougal	1907-1909
Alexander McLearn	1865-1869	Hermann G. Patt	1909-1914
Edward Humphrey	1870-1871	T. C. Brewster	1915-1919
S. C. Chandler	1872-1874	Hermann G. Patt	1928-1937
D. A. Dearborn	1874-1881		

The following is thought to be a complete list of the ministers who served the Methodist Episcopal Church at the Corners, together with their periods of service:

L. White	1880-1881	John C. Evans	1901-1904
Elwin Hitchcock	1881-1884	Wilbur F. Hale	1904-1906
A. O. Abbott	1884-1885	Edgar A. Brownell	1906-1908
Jerome Wood	1885-1888	Walter H. Upham	1909-1910
W. P. Arbuckle	1889-1890	D. P. Pelley	1910-1911
Francis J. Hale	1890-1893	Alpheus E. Tuttle	1911-1913
James Sutherland	1893-1898	Walter C. Prewett	1913-1916
J. Alphonso Day	1898-1900	Edward Jobbins	1916-1917
Cecil R. Sherman	1900-1901	George Richards	1917-1918

The following ministers have served the Federated Church of Granville since its establishment in July, 1937, together with their term of service.

Asa W. Mellinger, October 1, 1937 to July 1, 1940

John H. Hatt, October 1, 1940 to October 1, 1943

Martin L. Grissom, December 1, 1943 to January 1, 1946

Richard W. Bennett, July 1, 1946 to August 1, 1948

Norris E. Woodbury, October 1, 1948 to September 27, 1953

List of Tavern Keepers having regular Innholders' licenses

1755	Phineas Pratt		Dan Robinson
1756	Phineas Pratt		Thomas Hamilton
	Timothy Robinson	1761	same as 1760
1757	same as 1756	1762	same as 1760
1758	Phineas Pratt	1763	Dan Robinson
1759	Phineas Pratt	1764	George Pynchon
	Dan Robinson		Ephraim Munson
1760	Phineas Pratt	1765	George Pynchon

	Ephraim Munson		David Fowler
	Samuel Coe		Jesse Munson
1766	same as 1765		Thomas Lloyd
1767	same as 1765	1786	Nathaniel Bates
1768	George Pynchon		John Wright
	Edmund Barlo		Thomas Lloyd
	Samuel Coe	1787	Nathaniel Bates
1769	same as 1768	1788	Nathaniel Bates
1770	same as 1768		Gideon Hull
1771	same as 1768	1789	Nathaniel Bates
1772	George Pynchon		Gideon Hull
	Samuel Coe		Thomas Lloyd
	Joel Bancroft		Abel Tillotson
	Job Stiles	1790	Nathaniel Bates
1773	same as 1772		Thomas Burbank
1774	record not found		Gideon Hull
1775	record not found		Abel Tillotson
1776	no licenses issued to any one in Granville	1791	Jacob Baldwin
1777	no licenses issued to any one in Granville		Thomas Burbank
1778	Oliver Phelps		Gideon Hull
1779	Enoch Coe	1792	Jacob Baldwin
1780	Enoch Coe		Thomas Burbank
	Jesse Munson		Nathaniel Rogers
	Ebenezer Smith		Samuel Dodd Wilcox
1781	Enoch Coe	1793	Jacob Baldwin
	Lebbeus Ball		John Phelps
	Westol Scovil		Eber Spelman
1782	Nathaniel Bates		Samuel Dodd Wilcox
	Lebbeus Ball		Nathaniel Rogers
	Westol Scovil	1794	Jacob Baldwin
	Jesse Munson		Oliver Dickinson
1783	Nathaniel Bates		David Robinson
	Lebbeus Ball		Eber Spelman
	Westol Scovil		Jonathan Strickland
	Jesse Munson	1795	Samuel Dodd Wilcox
	Enoch Bancroft		Jacob Baldwin
1784	Nathaniel Bates		Thomas Burbank
	David Fowler		Oliver Dickinson
	Abner Rose		David Robinson
	Jesse Munson		Elisha Stow
	Thomas Lloyd		Jonathan Strickland
1785	Nathaniel Bates		Samuel Dodd Wilcox
			Nathaniel Rogers
		1796	Jacob Baldwin

	Thomas Burbank		Samuel Dodd Wilcox
	Oliver Dickinson	1804	John Barnes
	David Robinson		Thomas Barnes
	Jonathan Strickland		Moses Parsons
	Samuel Dodd Wilcox		Seth Phelps
1797	Jacob Baldwin		Thaddeus Squire
	Thomas Burbank		Samuel Dodd Wilcox
	Oliver Dickinson	1805	Isaac Hardin
	Elisha Stow		Moses Parsons
	Jonathan Strickland		Seth Phelps
	Samuel Dodd Wilcox		Thaddeus Squire
1798	Lucy Baldwin		Samuel Dodd Wilcox
	Thomas Burbank	1806	Enoch Drake
	Oliver Dickinson		Isaac Hardin
	Seth Phelps		Moses Parsons
	Jonathan Strickland		Seth Phelps
	Samuel Dodd Wilcox		Thaddeus Squire
1799	Lucy Baldwin		Samuel Dodd Wilcox
	Linus Bates	1807	Isaac Hardin
	Oliver Dickinson		Moses Parsons
	Seth Phelps		Thaddeus Squire
	Jonathan Strickland		Samuel Dodd Wilcox
	Samuel Dodd Wilcox	1808	Moses Parsons
1800	Linus Bates		Thaddeus Squire
	Oliver Dickinson	1809	Isaac Hardin
	Moses Parsons		Daniel Gillet
	Seth Phelps		Thaddeus Squire
	David Robinson	1810	Timothy Brockway
	Jesse Spelman		Margaret Scott
	Samuel Dodd Wilcox		John Lloyd
1801	Oliver Dickinson	1811	Timothy Brockway
	Newton Hayes		Thaddeus Squire
	Moses Parsons		Elihu Stow
	Seth Phelps	1812	Timothy Brockway
	David Robinson		Thaddeus Squire
	Samuel Dodd Wilcox	1813	none of record
1802	no licenses issued to any one in	1814	Thaddeus Squire
	Granville		Eli Winchell
1803	Linus Bates	1815	Thaddeus Squire
	Oliver Dickinson	1816	Nathan Curtiss
	Moses Parsons	1817	Nathan Curtiss
	Seth Phelps		Thaddeus Squire
	Jesse Spelman	1818	Nancy Curtiss
	Thaddeus Squire		Thaddeus Squire

	Elihu Stow		Charles Phelps
1819	same as 1818	1827	William B. Cooley
1820	same as 1818		Levi Curtiss
1821	Nancy Curtiss		Charles Phelps
	William Henry	1828	same as 1827
	Elihu Stow	1829	Charles Phelps
1822	Levi Curtiss		John Phelps
	Nancy Curtiss		Henry Squires
	Elihu Stow	1830	William B. Cooley
1823	same as 1822		Charles Phelps
1824	Levi Curtiss		Henry Squires
	Israel M. Parsons	1831	Levi S. Parsons
	Lyman Root		Charles Phelps
1825	Levi Curtiss		Joel Root
	Israel M. Parsons		Elijah Seymour
	Charles Phelps		William H. Squires
1826	Levi Curtiss		

After 1831 licenses sometimes contained some information as to the location of the licensed premises.

1832	Barlow Clark, at the Corners	1843	same as 1842
	Charles Phelps, in the East Parish	1844	same as 1842
	Elijah Seymour, in the East Parish	1845	Timothy M. Cooley, 2nd
	William H. Squire, in the Middle Parish	1846	none of record
		1847	Levi Brown, in the East Parish
1833	none of record		Daniel D. Taylor
1834	Charles Phelps	1848	Alpha Rockwell, in the Middle Parish
	Elijah Seymour	1849	Levi Brown, in East Granville
1835	Charles Phelps		Augustin Holcomb, at the Corners
	Elijah Seymour		David Merwin
	William H. Squire	1850	same as 1849
1836	none of record	1851	Levi Brown
1837	Frank Baker	1852	same as 1851
1838	Charles Phelps	1853	same as 1851
	Elijah Seymour	1854	none of record
1839	Charles Phelps	1855	none of record
1840	Charles Phelps	1856	none of record
	Abial H. Pease	1857	Levi Brown
	Elijah Seymour	1858	same as 1857
1841	none of record	1859	same as 1857
1842	Francis Clark	1860	Samuel S. Marks, at the Old Tavern Stand, West Gran-
	Timothy M. Cooley, 2nd		
	Charles Phelps		

ville. (This was the Hotel, 1861 Horace H. Parsons, at the
at that time the first build- Old Tavern Stand.
ing east of the store.)

The records from here on are exceedingly fragmentary.

1868 Sparrow Crosby, at Union	1878 to 1912 Columbus Wilcox, at
Hotel, Granville Hill	the Hotel, Granville village
Goodrich E. Moore, at Phelps	1917 to 1919 Mrs. John M. Ste-
Hotel, Granville Corners	venson, at Oriole Inn, Gran-
Horace H. Parsons, at the Old	village Center. (Accommoda-
Stand, West Granville	tions in summer only.)

In addition to the foregoing, old residents recall that others kept taverns in Granville, whether with or without licenses does not appear. Among those remembered are:

Augusta Hayes
Dwight Merriam
William Wallace

List of those having retail licenses

(Liquor not to be drunk on the premises)

1778 Thomas L. Lloyd	1786 Amos Hall
1779 none of record	Oliver Phelps
1780 Thomas L. Lloyd	David Robinson
Daniel Penfield	Robert Spelman
Abel Tillotson	1787 Oliver Phelps
John Wright	1788 Thomas Burbank
1781 Nathaniel Bates	Oliver Phelps
Thomas Hull	1789 none of record
1782 Thomas Hull	1790 Enoch Bancroft
Thomas L. Lloyd	1791 Enoch Bancroft
1783 Thomas Hull	Seth Phelps
Thomas L. Lloyd	Bela Scovil
Phelps and Penfield (probably	1792 John Phelps
Oliver Phelps and Daniel	Seth Phelps
Penfield)	Abel Tillotson
1784 Israel Parsons	1793 Thomas Burbank
Oliver Phelps	Ichabod Clark
Phineas Pickett and Phineas	Seth Phelps
Squire	David Robinson
1785 James Coe	1794 Thomas Burbank
Israel Parsons	Ichabod Clark
Oliver Phelps	Seth Phelps
Phineas Pickett	1795 Seth Phelps
David Robinson	1796 same as 1795

1797	Edmund Barlow, Jr. William Hatch Seth Phelps		Reuben Hills Joseph Parsons Joel Root
1798	none of record	1818	same as 1817
1799	none of record	1819	Reuben Hills Joseph Parsons
1800	Thaddeus Squire		Joel Root
1801	Israel Parsons Joel Root Thaddeus Squire Francis Stebbins	1820	Noah Cooley Joseph Parsons Joel Root
1802	none of record		William Terry
1803	none of record	1821	Noah Cooley Joel Root William Terry
1804	Daniel M. Cooley Daniel Gillet Joel Root	1822	Noah Cooley William B. Cooley Joseph Parsons Joel Root
1805	William Cooley, Jr. Daniel M. Cooley Daniel Gillet Joel Root	1823	same as 1822
1806	Jonathan Barlow William Cooley, Jr. Daniel Gillet	1824	Noah Cooley William B. Cooley Joel Root
1807	Daniel M. Cooley William Cooley, Jr.		Lyman Root William Seymour
1808	none of record		Jesse B. Spelman
1809	none of record	1825	Noah Cooley William B. Cooley Joel Root William Seymour Jesse B. Spelman
1810	Job Avery Samuel Blair Amos M. Collins Joseph Ecolls Eli Hall Isaac Hardin	1826	Noah Cooley William B. Cooley Joel Root
1811	none of record		
1812	Reuben Hills Joseph Parsons Joel Root	1827	same as 1826
1813	none of record	1828	Noah Cooley William B. Cooley Joel Root
1814	Noah Cooley Reuben Hills Joel Root		Lyman Root Elijah Seymour
1815	Noah Cooley Joel Root	1829	J. Cooley Noah Cooley John Phelps
1816	same as 1815		Joel Root
1817	Noah Cooley		Seymour Root

1830	Henry Squire Noah Cooley Timothy M. Cooley, 2nd Joel and Lyman Root Elijah Seymour Henry Squire	1834	Timothy M. Cooley, 2nd, at store in East Parish Joel Root, at his shop in East Parish Elijah Seymour, at store in East Parish
1831	Timothy M. Cooley, 2nd	1835	same as 1834
1832	Timothy M. Cooley, 2nd, at store in East Parish Elijah Seymour, at store in East Parish Lyman Root, at store in East Parish Levi H. Parsons, at store in Middle Parish William H. Squire, at store in Middle Parish	1836	Vincent Holcomb, at his office
		1837	none of record
		1838	Joel Root, at his store Elijah Seymour, at his store
		1839	Timothy M. Cooley, 2nd, at store of Cooley & Gibbons
		1840	Timothy M. Cooley, 2nd, at store of Cooley & Gibbons Elijah Seymour, at store in East Parish
1833	none of record		

No record of retail liquor licenses is found after 1840, until 1881.

1881	Columbus Wilcox, at the Ho- tel in Granville Corners	1883	none of record
1882	Henry Soule, in West Gran- ville Columbus Wilcox, at the Ho- tel in Granville Corners	1884	Columbus Wilcox, at Hotel in Granville
		1885	same as 1884

There has been no license for the sale of intoxicating liquor in the Town of Granville since 1885.

Addendum

The Story of a Village Library

By

LAVINIA ROSE WILSON

Introduction

IT IS very difficult for people of today, when wages are high and money is plentiful, actually to realize the financial situation of nearly sixty years ago when the Granville Library Club was organized. In those days, for a small group of women to set themselves to raise enough money to build and equip a library was an almost unheard-of undertaking. It was a task far harder than it would now be to raise five times the same amount.

To commemorate the work of these courageous women, this short paper, most of which was written in 1906, with a few additions to include some of the later work of the Club, is now presented as an Addendum to the History of Granville.

LAVINIA ROSE WILSON

Granville, November 15, 1953

The Story of a Village Library

WE ARE all more or less familiar with present-day workings of the Granville Library, but not so much so with the struggles to get it started—and they were indeed very real struggles. It is of these struggles that this paper tells.

Nowadays we are apt to take the Library for granted, much as we do our schools; but in my girlhood, it was quite different. Then the nearest approach to a public library was the very limited collection of books in the Sunday Schools; in fact, one of the attractions of Sunday School was that you could get a book to take home and read during the week.

So imagine yourself, if you will, to be looking at the pink and green map of New England in your old school geography. On the boundary line between the Nutmeg State and the Old Bay State, just west of the Connecticut River, you will see the pink of Massachusetts jutting down into the green of Connecticut. The little Massachusetts town which occupies the section just northwest of this jog is Granville.

Like a good many New England towns in the hill districts, the scanty population is scattered over an area of about forty square miles with three small villages as centers, Granville, Granville Center and West Granville, each one once having its own schoolhouse, store, post office and church, and a farming population living along the outlying country roads. The two western villages are distinctly farming communities, but Granville proper, formerly called the Corners, with not over 300 souls all told, is a manufacturing community although now nearly twenty miles from the nearest railroad center.

As one might expect, there are some families who, though perhaps not rich in the modern sense of the word, are really well-to-do; but life for the most means daily work. Naturally, too, there are some who enter deeply into the problems of the day and the intellectual treasures of past and present; but they, too, belong to the few, and there is no literary club, even so-called. The boys and girls, as they

grow up, either go away to school and then into business or professional life elsewhere; or, without completing the excellent school course furnished by the town, enter the factories, work on the farm, or do odd jobs here and there. And in the latter case, they are very apt to drift.

Such, then, were conditions in 1896 when the wife of one of our leading business men, a woman of the noblest ideals, saw primarily the needs of the boys and girls; and out of her efforts to help them grew our Library, one of the most beautiful and best equipped in any town of comparable size. Coming from one of our great cities where church, Young Men's Christian Association, and other organizations do so much to provide social life distinctly for young people and to afford them a common meeting-place which shall be not only thoroughly desirable, but open to them at any time, Mrs. Ralph B. Cooley realized the lack of exactly that element and thought she might help Granville most in that particular way. The Town, in compliance with the Library Act of 1890, had appropriated a small amount of money and had then received one hundred dollars' worth of books from the State. All these were placed in the chapels in Granville and Granville Center, in charge of the ministers or some interested person and were accessible to the public one afternoon a week. Accommodations were lamentably insufficient and neither books nor people could be properly cared for.

So, on February 11, 1896, Mrs. Cooley invited to her home twelve women and laid before them her hopes. The Granville Library Club, with Mrs. Cooley as its President, was immediately organized and its purpose distinctly stated: "To erect a library building containing a library and reading-room and also a room provided with suitable attractions and amusements for both young men and young women." The original members were:

Mrs. Ralph B. Cooley, President
Miss Nellie C. Noble, Vice-President
Miss Cora A. Noble, Secretary
and Treasurer
Mrs. Orville R. Noble
Mrs. Silas B. Root
Mrs. Cattie Huddleston

Mrs. Mary Gill
Mrs. Emma Barlow
Mrs. Milo E. Seymour
Mrs. E. N. Henry
Mrs. Nell Gibbons
Mrs. Alice Carpenter
Miss Clara E. Wilcox

Of these thirteen charter members, only two are now living, Mrs. Cattie Huddleston and Miss Clara Wilcox. Some years ago when Mrs. Huddleston moved away from Granville, she resigned from the Club though still showing her interest in it. So now the only remaining member of the Club who was one of the original members is Miss Clara E. Wilcox.

Next came the all-important question of finance, not "*How should it be done?*", but "*How could it be done?*". The personnel of the Club then came to the front. The members had been chosen not because of their financial or literary qualifications, though these were well represented, but for their personal qualities. Some were women of independent means; some earned their own living by working in the factory; there were some whose husbands had an average daily wage, one whose husband received only one dollar a day; and one who had absolutely no pin-money to call her own. Clearly, then, it was not a question of writing checks for the desired amount. The money must be earned, and to this very fact is due in great measure the wholesome interest which the Club aroused. Each member pledged ten dollars a year which she should earn, and more if possible. In addition to this individual effort, they were to work as a Club. Now recall, please, the situation, population and environment of the town. Consider, too, that with the exception of two generous gifts, practically all the money was raised in the one small village of Granville, that the Club was started only in 1896, that in November, 1901, the building was completed at a total cost of more than \$13,000—and you will have some idea of the zeal and self-denial with which those few women worked.

To get a true picture of conditions then, we should remember that a pound of cheese cost only 16¢; a quart of the best milk, 5¢; an excellent and substantial three course dinner in one of Westfield's best restaurants, only 25¢. This dinner consisted of a large plate of soup—not a few spoonfuls in a cup—, a very generous serving of roast beef or pork with potatoes and two other vegetables, plenty of bread and butter, a large piece of pie, and coffee or tea. Twenty-five cents! Think of it! Then for fifty cents, you could have a really deluxe dinner in one of Springfield's best hotels. So when these

women pledged themselves to earn ten dollars a year, apiece, it really *was* something.

Immediately after the adjournment of its first meeting, the Club resolved itself into individual committees of ways and means, and many an hour was spent in careful thought, for one of the first principles was that for whatever was done, only the current commercial value should be asked; that every article sold should be not simply attractive, but useful and fully worth its price. In short, that buyers were always to receive their money's worth and that no one should feel that, since it was for a good cause, one was expected to pay double price for what was not wanted.

The record of the first two or three years shows the common sense ideas which the members had, as well as the business insight which saw what could be most advantageously turned into dollars and cents. One woman who lived upon a farm where arbutus ran riot gathered and sent to a neighboring city enough to bring her six of the necessary ten dollars. Later in the year, she herself picked and sold the fruit from some of their cherry trees; and during winter evenings she knitted many a pair of mittens. This was Mrs. Alice Carpenter.

Growing along some of the tiny brooks were quantities of sweet flag. One member hired a boy to gather the roots for her at intervals during the summer. After being cleaned, sliced and sugared, they were sold in five-cent packets. This proved not only very attractive, but very profitable. It was Clara Wilcox who did this. She also knitted bed socks and mittens.

The Club President, Mrs. Ralph B. Cooley, who had a garden noted for its delicious strawberries, sold those which were not wanted for home use and always found an eager market. Then, a little later, being a shrewd business woman, she exchanged a thoroughly good but cast-off overcoat of her husband's for the year's yield of a neighbor's crab-apple tree. These crab apples she had picked and sent to a dealer in New York, so commanding the best price, and realized a little over thirteen dollars from that venture alone.

Two other Club members, Mrs. Ann Noble and Mrs. Nell Gibbons, joined forces and on every Saturday afternoon during the

summer sold ice-cream. This proved to be especially attractive since there was at that time no place in town where it could be bought, and many an order was taken for the Sunday-dinner supply. They also made lemonade for the Saturday ball games and so earned the gratitude, as well as nickels, of a thirsty public.

Mrs. Cattie Huddleston made pop corn balls for Saturday sale and so delighted the hearts of the small boys. She also made hulled corn—an old-time dish which we now seldom see.

Mrs. Silas Root, near whose home was a small unused field, had this land plowed and sowed to turnips. A good yield resulted and much more than the required amount was easily earned. Being an excellent cook, she also made and sold doughnuts.

Miss Nellie Noble, who had a gift for painting, took orders for calendars and the like at Christmas time, and so solved her problem. Her sister, Miss Cora Noble, laundered fine lace curtains and sold specially prepared jellies.

Mrs. Emma Barlow earned her ten dollars by doing housework for a neighbor.

Mrs. Hattie Oysler, who joined the Club not long after it was started, made and sold carpenter's aprons, something which at that time happened to be specially needed. Then on one day each week, for a certain length of time, she sold clam chowder to the men from the factory—not an easy way of earning her share, but a very practical one.

Mrs. Emma Holcomb, another woman not a charter member, made her money by doing her own washing and ironing and, most significant of all, by "going without things." In that lies the key to the whole situation. It meant self-denial in the sense that one gave up present personal wishes for future general good.

Then, to speak briefly of the work of the Club as a whole: in November, 1896, a fair was held, the first in twenty-five years, if you can credit such a seemingly impossible statement. This brought in nearly \$500.00. The chief interest in this fair centered around a beautifully dressed French doll given by the Club President. A great many tickets had been sold allowing purchasers to guess its name, the doll to go, of course, to the one guessing correctly. The name proved to be Celia; and through a fortunate chain of circumstances,

the doll was immediately given back to the Club to be sold again that evening. She was put up at auction, sold and again returned for selling, and so for the third time brought a good price. All told, she netted the Club just \$112.00. The name "Celia" was chosen because that was the name of Mr. Ralph Cooley's mother.

Following this came a package sale, an auction, a birthday social, and a strawberry festival; but these were soon discontinued and all efforts concentrated upon the November fair which came to be an annual event looked forward to with great interest. Not only do townspeople go, but there is a good representation from nearby towns. Westfield merchants, who draw considerable trade from the Granville people, have remembered us very kindly, some by a barrel of flour or the like, or a money equivalent. At the fair, there is always a fancy work booth where one can buy really beautiful embroideries and other hand-work. However, most of the attention is given to distinctly useful articles and many a thrifty housewife plans to get there her yearly supply of aprons for they are of various styles, home-made, of the best materials, and at a price only a little more than the actual cost of the gingham or lawn. The same thing is done in the line of handkerchiefs and, while there are some not home-made, most are dainty hem-stitched affairs with a touch of lace or embroidery at about the cost of bare materials. A candy table and fish-pond for the children and a flower table for the grown-ups also help to please, as well as a very generous booth where one can buy vegetables, fruits, home-made jellies, pickles and relishes, or even fowls. In connection with the fair, a very unusual chicken-pie supper is always served at a moderate price and there are few who do not take advantage of it. Because the fair and supper are distinctly practical, they are always well attended and ordinarily net about \$500.00.

At the end of their third year, the Club had banked nearly \$3,000.00. Then Mr. Milton B. Whitney of Westfield, a native of Granville, offered to give \$5,000.00 for a Library if the Town would give a like amount, the entire sum to go only into the building and its furnishings. After this offer had been made, the Club decided to raise as much money as possible among the citizens by subscription, and in this way secured \$1,800.00 in amounts varying from fifty

cents to two hundred dollars. Former residents of the town, who still felt an interest, as well as their descendants, subscribed a like amount, \$1,300.00 of which was given by Mr. Francis B. Cooley of Hartford, Connecticut and Mr. Foote of New York City pledged fifty dollars a year during his lifetime for the reading room. So Mr. Whitney's offer of \$5,000.00 was more than paired by the Club and what had been a remote possibility was now nearing reality.

Next came the question of location, and in order to secure the most desirable spot, it became necessary to move two houses and take down several buildings. This meant an unexpected expense of more than \$1,500.00. But the amount was raised, in 1900 the building was started, completed the following year and opened for use on February 22, 1902.

It would be interesting to know how many now remember the Library corner as it was before that building was started. There was the house on the corner, facing west, where the George Gaines family lived and a huge butternut tree just north of the house. In the rear, and a little to one side, was a large two-story building in the northwest corner of which was the well which now supplies the Library. Farther toward the east were the barns and a large early-apple tree, the delight of all the children. Between the Gaines' house and what is now the Grange Hall stood another house, occupied by the Bruch family and later on by the Charles Thompson family. This was back in 1900 when the automobile was still a curiosity.

In their plans, the architects had to provide for the two-fold use of the building, that of the library proper and the rooms for social purposes. It was desired to have the two features closely connected and, at the same time, arranged so that they could be used independently. This was most happily accomplished and, in addition, provision was made in the basement for a commodious kitchen, pantry and supper room. The building itself, on a foundation of native field stone, is of buff brick with brown stone trimmings, is heated by steam and was originally lighted by a separate acetylene gas plant. This lighting system was changed to electricity when that became available.

Upon its completion, the Library was presented by the Club to the Town which, in return, gave the Club certain privileges. The

Library is open for the taking of books two days each week in the afternoon and every evening except Sunday, as is the reading room. The amusement room at first was open four evenings a week but, with changed conditions, it is now used for other things. Branch libraries were established in the schoolhouses of the outlying districts with the teachers as custodians, but school consolidation has brought changes. For a time, there were also branch libraries in the village stores in the western part of the town. The annual expense was met about equally by Town and Club until World War II made it impossible to hold the annual fair and supper.

From its beginning, the Club has worked as a unit and although there have been strong individual preferences, they have been subordinated to bring about the greatest final good. There is one regret—that the first Vice-President, Miss Nellie C. Noble, a woman who was untiring in her efforts at a most critical time, one whom all loved for her enthusiastic support, did not live to see the building completed. The work was long and at times disheartening; yet throughout, there was never for an instant the thought of giving up. It was a labor of love which roused interest among young and old alike and is, we hope, but the start of a continuing work of village improvement.

As to the later work of the Club, these are only a few of its more important activities: Since the death of Mr. Foote, the Club has bought and placed in the Library for public use the leading magazines and one daily paper. It has also bought various encyclopedias and books of reference especially useful to children in the Grades and in the High School, as well as hundreds of books of general interest.

In 1923, when the lighting was changed from acetylene gas to electricity, more than half the bill was paid by the Club. In 1927, the original roof of wooden shingles leaked so badly that it was replaced by one of slate at a cost of more than \$1,300.00, entirely paid for by the Club. From time to time, other repairs have been needed and for these the Club has paid its full share. Also, the Club gave and placed on the Library lawn a steel flag-pole and a large United States flag to fly therefrom.

In 1945, Mr. William B. Bailey of West Hartford, Connecticut, established a fund of \$1,000.00 in memory of his mother, Ellen Bacon Bailey, a Granville woman, the income to be used to purchase books of historical and genealogical interest. This gave the Club the idea of using the former amusement room, which had ceased to be used as such, for an historical exhibit. Granville residents were enthusiastic and either gave or loaned many valuable and interesting articles, which are now on view. The special attendant is paid by the Club.

In June, 1950, the Club celebrated the start of the actual building of the Library by an "open house" for the Town, held at the Library. Refreshments were served and in the evening there was dancing on the lawn, which was made gay with Japanese lanterns. Members of the Club, dressed in costumes of fifty years before, acted as hostesses.

Two years later, in 1952, the Club and the Town joined in a celebration at the Library, honoring Mrs. Mable Root Henry for fifty years of devoted and efficient service as Librarian. The Club presented to her a gold wrist watch and the Town, by individual subscriptions, a substantial cash gift. Also in 1952, the Club placed and lighted a Community Christmas Tree upon the Library lawn—something which it hopes to continue as an annual event.

With the rationing of both food and gasoline in World War II, the Club was forced to discontinue the annual chicken pie supper and fair by which it raised the largest part of its expense money. In consequence, since then the Town has had to pay most of the bills. However, two suppers and fairs have been held, one in 1950 and one in 1952, the money raised being used strictly for Library purposes.

In the days to come, as in the past, the Club hopes to continue its work for the Community, which was the reason for its coming into being and has been its one aim throughout the years.

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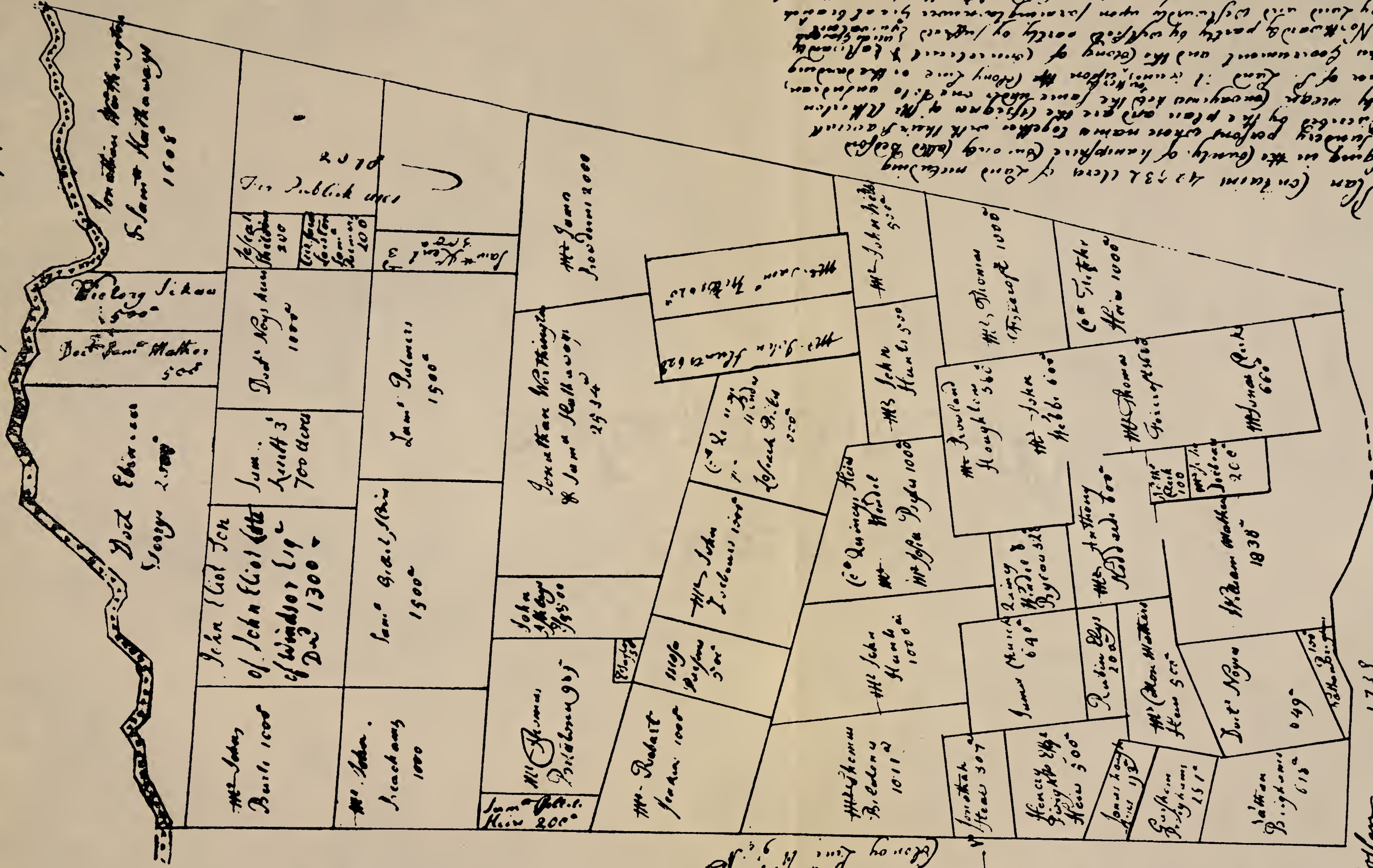
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My dear Mr. Garrison
I have just received your letter of the 10th inst. and am
glad to hear that you are well and happy. I am
also well and hope these few lines will find you
the same. I have been thinking much of late
of the state of the world and the progress of
the cause of freedom. It seems to me that we
are making slow but steady progress and that
the day is not far distant when we shall have
a more perfect union and a more just and
equitable system of government.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
Wm. Lloyd Garrison

The Great-South of Birmingham River



Wm. H. L. 1870

Supple^r Bottom 1738
December the 20th Thos. Nott^m Dwyght
Surveyor of this tract of land described in this plan
personaly appeared and with that it was open
according to the best of his knowledge and judgment
sworn before me
John T. Fisher Justice of Peace

The Stan (contains 42532 acres of land including
 those lands lying in the County of Hampshire formerly before
 and by sundry persons whose names are set forth in the
 Statute in that behalf made and are the Assigns of the said
 who by several Conveyances had the same which ended to and
 in an owner of the said land: it is now upon the (Royal Line of the Land)
 line between the Government and the County of (Hampshire & London)
 upon which party by which party of (Hampshire & London)
 partly by County Land and partly upon (Hampshire & London)
 dividing the tract of land from and (Hampshire & London)
 was made by the Assigns of John Stan (Hampshire & London)
 (Hampshire & London) was run by the order of the Government and it is decided
 by a scale of 200 to one with N. The 12 1759 to 1760 (Hampshire & London)



